WOMAN KILLED WHILE CROSSING ROAD, PG 3

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Celebrity pg 42

Bullock latest celeb to aid Haiti

Céline Dion rolling in the dough

MUSIC Céline Dion is proof that if you build it, they will come.

The Canadian star raked in more money in the decade that ended Dec. 31 than any other musician, and she did it largely by staying put in custom-built performance space in Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, the Los Angeles Times reported yesterday.

The Quebec-born superstar earned more than U2 and the Rolling Stones.

The Times' list, its Ultimate Top 10, combines artists' album sales revenue and their concert earnings to put Dion's $747.9 million US in the No. 1 spot, with ticket sales making up $522.2 million.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News on the Move

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Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010

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• Today — Omischl chasing elusive gold, page 20

Travel pg 31

An island for romance

On the web

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Mission

Next stop Haiti

JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian Armed Forces member Jean Michel Desbiens holds his eight-month-old son, Xavier, yesterday before leaving CFB Valcartier for Haiti as his daughter, Alexanne, looks on. About 120 soldiers were scheduled to board a plane for Haiti yesterday. More coverage, pages 8, 11, 14

Fade to black

Citytv lays off numerous on-air staff, cuts news

Citytv has restructured newsroom operations across the country, including several cuts at its flagship Toronto station, with layoffs of a number of employees, including well-known on-air talent and production staff.

According to a story on the Citynews.ca website, Anne Mroczkowski, an anchor on CityNews at Six, was let go Monday evening, while the rest of the staff were informed yesterday.

Koreen Ott, director of marketing for Rogers Media Television in Toronto, would not comment on specific personnel matters, but other Citytv staff confirmed Mroczkowski and at least six other news staff were laid off. They include Farah Nasser, Lara Di Battista, Pam Seatle, Marianne Dimain, Merella Fernandez and Michael Serapio.

Rogers did not say how many production staff were let go, although some online estimates ran as high as 35.

"This is the death of local news," said one former employee. "If Rogers, which has money, is doing this, then what do you think we can expect from the other networks?"

The mood inside the Rogers TV building was grim.

"It's just awful," said one employee who was not part of the cuts. "Basically, when Ted Rogers died, so did the vision of Citytv as a national network player.

"Nobody has any vision. The bean counters have taken over and they want to turn us into Omni 3."

Citytv will continue to produce morning shows Breakfast Television and CityLine across the country, while CityNews at Six and CityNews at Night will continue to air in Toronto, Ott said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cancelled

- Citytv's noon news program, CityNews at 5, Citynews International and weekend newscasts have all been cancelled, said Koreen Ott, director of marketing for Rogers Media Television.
- CP24, the all-news channel owned by CTV, immediately launched new newscasts at 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. weekdays to fill the void.

Haitian-Canadians seek relaxed immigration rules

Haiti Crisis

POLICY Haitian-Canadians are pleading with the federal government to further relax its immigration policies as they desperately seek ways to reunite with their broken families.

A throng spent yet another day waiting for hours outside a Montreal immigration-consulting office yesterday, armed with little more than hope.

One woman toiling in line conceded the venture might not yield any results — but she stayed anyway.

"In our situation, we are desperate, but we aren't stupid," said the woman, who gave her name only as Edwige, as she stood outside the building near Montreal's Bell Centre.

"We're not naive, but we have to have hope."
Woman waiting in Montreal lineup

"Maybe they have information that can help us accelerate our requests. We're not naive, but we have to have hope."

The long, restless lineups outside that office have become a symbol of a community in panic.

One Haitian-born Montreal policeman assigned to control the crowd struggled to fight back tears this week while watching the scene unfold.

A coalition of immigrant groups asked the government to extend eligibility for family sponsorship beyond the immediate household, to siblings and close relatives like aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

As it stands, only spouses, children under age 22, parents, grandparents and orphaned minors qualify for family reunification.

In addition to automatic entry for close family, they want more distant relatives — like cousins — to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Toronto 1 Concorde Gate, Suite 703, Toronto, Ontario M3C 3N6. Publisher: Bill McDonald

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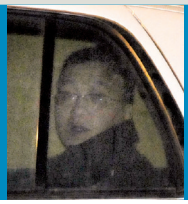

Accused fraudster's bail hearing put over

A bail hearing for a Toronto financial adviser charged with defrauding investors of about $30 million has been put over until Thursday. Weizhen Tang, left, is accused of bilking about 100 investors in Canada, the United States and China through a Ponzi scheme. His wife, a longtime friend and his hairdresser have all told court they would put up equity in their homes so Tang could make bail. They have also said they'd supervise him so he doesn't try to get more investors or engage in day trading. The Crown opposes granting Tang bail. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

INSOLVENCY Canadian RV manufacturer Glendale International has declared bankruptcy. The Oakville-based company says high gasoline prices have had a devastating effect on the North American recreational vehicle industry. Glendale's chief executive, Edward Hanna, said yesterday in a statement the company has reviewed all options available to it, but didn't see a significant rebound ahead. As a result, Glendale decided to make a voluntary filing under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. The company said all the Glendale directors have resigned THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tomorrow's Metro

Comment

Steve Collins writes about the modern Canadian relationship in Relating.

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Front-line rescue workers recount the horror on the ground in Haiti at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs It's Called Football welcomes Red Bulls defender Michael Petke for the players' perspective on MLS CBA negotiations.

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Another pedestrian killed

Cops concerned with the number of fatalities at the start of this year

A 76-year-old woman was hit while carrying a bag of chicken breasts across Rutherford Road near Highway 400 yesterday afternoon. The driver of the van was uninjured and remained at the scene.

York Region police Sgt. Steve Kempster said he was "concerned by the busy start to the year" for pedestrian fatalities.

"Sometimes it's the fault of the pedestrian and sometimes it is the driver," he said as officers collected the woman's groceries from the road. "You're always going to lose against a vehicle."

York police were still investigating the Rutherford Road collision last night, but didn't believe charges were likely.

Kempster, of the traffic reconstruction unit, said the 76-year-old woman began crossing the six lanes of Rutherford Road when traffic was stopped, but the light turned green before she finished. Cars idling in the two left lanes waited for her to finish, but an approaching van in the third lane didn't see her, Kempster said.

> **"You're always going to lose against a vehicle."**
> Sgt. Steve Kempster

"We can't tell you when she entered the crosswalk or how long it took her," Kempster said, adding witnesses to the accident should contact police. "We don't know what transpired, maybe she dropped to pick something up in the middle."

Kempster said the 29-year-old driver of the van was shaken.

Bonnie MacDonald, who crosses Rutherford Road everyday, said it is difficult to cross in time, especially with cars coming off Highway 400.

"I usually have to hustle and I'm not a slow walker," she said. "They need to reprogram it."

Coun. Bill Saundercook, co-chair of the Toronto Pedestrian Committee, believes walk signs give enough time for seniors to cross streets. "I think what needs to be looked into is whether vehicle operators are making pedestrians nervous by trying to take turns too quickly," he said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Man arrested in deadly hit-and-run

CUSTODY A Mississauga man has been arrested in a hit-and-run that left a 75-year-old man dead Monday.

Dominik Banka, 28, is in police custody.

Police declined to say exactly what led them to him, but implied a tip from the public may have played a part. Officers said the media carrying the story yesterday helped them.

Peel Regional Police said Charlie Woods, 75, was crossing Lakeshore Road West near Briarwood Avenue at around 10 p.m. when he was struck by an SUV.

Witnesses said the vehicle went through a stop sign as it turned westbound onto Lakeshore from Brant Avenue. Police said it appeared to accelerate before striking the man and didn't stop after the collision.

Witnesses recorded part of the licence plate and said the SUV may also have a roof rack. Police said the front of the vehicle was substantially damaged.

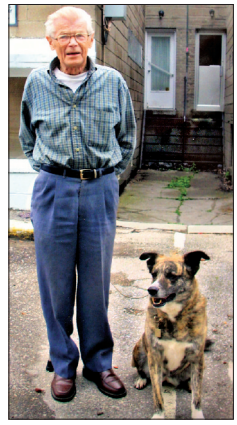
Police said it's not clear if the victim, who lived in the area, was in the crosswalk when he was hit.

"He was the most wonderful, beautiful man," said Barbara Gale, a clerk at a nearby bargain store.

Residents said Woods and his dog Lucy were regular fixtures in the area.

The death marked a deadly week for walkers in the GTA. The elderly man was the eighth pedestrian killed in the region in the last seven days, and the second in Mississauga in two days.

A 54-year-old Mississauga man was killed Sunday when he was struck by a tow truck as he walked with his wife and four-year-old son at Hurontario Street and the Queensway, just steps from Trillium hospital. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



LEFT: JIM WILKES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; RIGHT: SUBMITTED

Left: Plastic roses and a child's drawing and note memorializing Charlie Woods are taped to a tree along the sidewalk in Port Credit. Right: Charlie Woods and his dog Lucy.

Privacy complaint filed against site

SOCIAL MEDIA An Ottawa-based consumer advocacy group wants Canada's privacy commissioner to go after a youth-oriented social networking site for alleged privacy breaches.

The Public Interest Advocacy Centre has filed a complaint with Jennifer Stoddart about Nexopia's alleged "unnecessary and non-consensual use and disclosure of personal information."

Lawyer John Lawford says the Edmonton-based website should be held to a higher standard than other social networking sites since many of its users are minors, some as young as 13. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Nexopia says it has more than 1.4 million users and has become "the place to be for teens looking to express themselves to the world."

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Photo: Chris Calis

TORONTO

A Great City Needs Great People for the Sign Variance Committee

Mayor David Miller and Toronto City Council invite and encourage you to contribute your time and skills to the City.

The City of Toronto is looking for five Committee members for the Sign Variance Committee. The Sign Variance Committee is a City board that hears appeals of the Chief Building Official's decisions on variance applications for first party signs and makes decisions on variance applications for third party signs. Members must attend an orientation and training program.

Members of the Sign Variance Committee should collectively bring the following skills and expertise to the committee:

- demonstrate a strong interest in the complexities and challenges of city building
- bring an understanding of the diverse neighbourhoods and communities across the city
- have knowledge in one or more areas of: law, planning, architecture, government, economic development, community development, land development, or citizen advocacy
- demonstrate decision-making, communication, and mediation skills to facilitate an open and fair meeting process
- at least 3 members should have adjudication experience and 2 members should have public speaking and organization skills to be able to chair public meetings and maintain order in conflict situations

Who Can Apply?

You must be a resident of Toronto, at least 18 years old, and not an employee of the City or its agencies, nor the spouse, child or parent of a City Councillor.

You cannot act as an agent for parties before the Sign Variance Committee.

You cannot be an owner, employee or agent of an advertising agency, communications or media relations agency or be an employee, agent or owner of a business which owns, controls or has shares in a media outlet.

Women, young adults 18-30, people with disabilities, Aboriginal/First Nations people, and members of racial minorities are especially encouraged to apply.

How Do I Get Information and Applications?

- download information and an application at: **www.toronto.ca/public-appointments/opportunities.htm**
- pick up an application kit at City Clerk's Secretariat Offices at Toronto City Hall or Etobicoke, North York or Scarborough Civic Centres;
- e-mail: appoint@toronto.ca;
- call 311 (TTY 416-338-0889) for information or to ask for an application kit by mail; or
- pick up an application kit and talk to staff at a drop-in information session

DROP-IN INFORMATION SESSION – Thursday, January 28, 2010, City Hall, 2nd Floor, Committee Room 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Application deadline:

Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.

Instructions for returning your completed application are listed at the top of the application form. Late applications are ineligible, so please get your application in on time.

If you have special needs such as sign language interpretation or if you have questions about the application process, please let us know: e-mail appoint@toronto.ca or call 311 (TTY 416-338- 0889)

Diversity Our Strength

Woman says she gave legal-aid paid lawyer extra money

A woman trying to overturn her conviction for giving her son a cocaine overdose says she slipped her legal-aid paid lawyer $1,000 to get his attention. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TV host tells court she was exhausted

A former Toronto TV broadcaster has testified that she was in a state of menopausal exhaustion when she became ensnared in a mid-flight incident that has "decimated" her career and ruined her health.

Colleen Walsh has pleaded not guilty to charges of assault, obstructing the operation of an aircraft, and causing a disturbance.

Walsh was removed from a transatlantic flight last March 31 after it was diverted to St. John's for a medical emergency.

ROSIE GILLINGHAM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Colleen Walsh

The 49-year-old testified yesterday that she had been up for 30 hours, was on hormone replacement therapy and in a state of panic during the incident.

Walsh says she feels like she has been tried and convicted in the media essentially for offering first aid to an ill passenger.

She says Air Canada staff, airport security and police treated her in a "disgusting" manner, adding that a cop's testimony that she said she hoped the plane "would blow up" is untrue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

First Nations leaders decry decision to scrap aboriginal affairs minister

Aboriginal leaders are slamming Premier Dalton McGuinty's decision to get rid of a stand-alone minister of aboriginal affairs.

Chris Bentley took on the responsibility for aboriginal affairs in Monday's cabinet shuffle, along with his duties as Ontario's attorney general.

Former aboriginal affairs minister Brad Duguid, who held the post for 1½ years, has moved to energy and infrastructure.

The move is a "step backwards," said Nishnawbe Aski Nation Grand Chief Stan Beardy, who represents 49 First Nation communities in Ontario.

"We are disappointed that the premier doesn't see aboriginal issues worthy of having a stand-alone minister," he said yesterday in a statement.

Ontario Regional Chief Angus Toulouse also released a statement, calling the premier's move "a surprise."

"It will be important for Minister Bentley to structure his office to manage his dual roles — to ensure that First Nation concerns do not lose out to AG concerns, particularly since First Nations are often in an adversarial relationship with the AG."

"We are disappointed that the premier doesn't see aboriginal issues worthy of having a stand-alone minister."
Grand Chief Stan Beardy, Nishnawbe Aski Nation

Toulouse said Duguid's full-time attention during his time as minister had brought notable progress on several First Nations issues. He congratulated Duguid on his new appointment and thanked him for his hard work.

A separate minister for the post was a key recommendation of the report into the fatal shooting of native protester Dudley George by police at Ipperwash provincial park in 1995.

Murray Klippenstein, the lawyer for the late Sam George — Dudley's brother — has also panned the move, saying it would have upset his former client who died in May.

"This seems to be a step backwards," Klippenstein said Monday. "I know Sam would be saddened by that, and it would cause him some concern."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Correct answer to an arithmetic skill-testing question and completion of a declaration and release form required in order to be declared a winner. Full contest rules available at http://www.gm.ca ♠Available at all Chevrolet, Buick, GMC dealers. No purchase necessary. While quantities last. ♦2,000 (94-2009); 500 is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (or tax exclusive) and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. ♦♦$500 gold medal bonus cash is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Offer available on all 2009/2010 Chevrolet, Pontiac Buick GMC and Cadillac models excluding all Hummer, Saturn and Saab models, Camaro, Express/Savana, Corvette Z06, and Medium Duty Trucks. ♥Offer applies to the purchase of 2010 Chevrolet Malibu LS RTA/Traverse LS RTA/Silverado 1500 Ext. Cab 4WD RTA. ♥♥Freight ($1,350/$1,350), registration, air and fee levies or OMVIC fees are not included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, administration fees and applicable taxes are not included. Offer applies only to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area (Ontario Outbound). Dealer order may be required. Dealer's sale price may affect whether you can combine offers. Limited time offer, which may not be combined with other offers, subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. ▼Based on Chevrolet Canada's 60 Day Satisfaction Guarantee. Vehicle must be delivered from dealer stock between January 12, 2010 and March 31, 2010. Customer must take delivery from participating dealer by March 31, 2010. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer's sale price may affect whether you can combine offers. Limited time offer, which may not be combined with other offers, subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. ◊Based on Transport Canada test methods. Comparisons based on 2010 energuide simulations on competitive websites. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. Excludes other GM models. ©The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ¥OnStar® services require vehicle electrical system including battery, wireless service and GPS satellite signals to be available and operating for features to function properly. Subscription/Service Agreement required. Call 1-888-4ONSTAR (1-888-466-7827) or visit onstar.ca for OnStar's Terms and Conditions, Privacy Statement and details and system limitations. ™Chevrolet is a brand of General Motors of Canada, the Official Vehicle Partner of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic+Winter Games. TM© 2008, VANOC. ▼Return between 30-60 days with less than 4,000 km. Program applies to 2009 and 2010 models only, excludes demos, fleet, lease vehicles and medium duty trucks. Maximum damaged level of $2,000. Vehicle usage fees and other restrictions apply. Not available with some other offers. See dealer or gm.ca for additional details. ▼▼Qualify for GM Canada's Cash For Clunkers incentive, you must qualify for the Retire Your Ride Program, supported by the Government of Canada, and you must be turning in a 1995 model or older vehicle that is in running condition and has been registered and insured for the last 6 months (12 months in B.C.). Non-Government contribution of vehicle eligibility under the "Retire Your Ride Program". GM Canada will provide an incentive towards the purchase or lease of new 2009 or 2010 GM vehicle, excluding Medium Duty Trucks, in an amount ranging from $300 to $3,000, depending on the model purchased. Incentive applied after taxes. If you successfully complete the "Retire Your Ride" program, you will be eligible for a $300 cash incentive. By participating in this program you will not be eligible for any trade-in value for your vehicle. 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Commuters face GO train delays

It was a long rush hour for commuters who took the GO train home from Toronto's Union Station yesterday. Service in and out of the station was stopped in the afternoon because of signal problems. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Informant asked RCMP for $15M

Toronto 18 insider says he acted as responsible citizen

An RCMP informant central to disrupting a plot to bomb several targets in Ontario initially requested $15 million in compensation from the Mounties, court heard yesterday.

Shaher Elsohemy was in his second week of testimony at the trial of his former friend Shareef Abdelhaleem, who has pleaded not guilty to participating in a terrorist group and intending to detonate bombs. The explosions were to occur outside the Toronto Stock Exchange, at CSIS offices in Toronto and at an Ontario military base in what's known as the Toronto 18 terror plot.

The ringleader Zakaria Amara, 24, was handed the stiffest sentence Monday under Canada's terrorism laws — life — though he can seek parole in 2016.

Abdelhaleem's lawyer William Naylor has said both publicly and in court that the compensation for Elsohemy's work to infiltrate the plot and for putting him under witness protection was $4.1 million, but documents Naylor showed in court yesterday revealed Elsohemy was offered up to $3.99 million.

But when Elsohemy first discussed money with the RCMP in April 2006 — he had been meeting with CSIS agents before becoming a paid RCMP agent — he asked for $15 million, but was told that amount was too high.

"That was my highest level I started negotiating with," Elsohemy said yesterday under cross-examination from Naylor.

"It was more what they asked me to go through ... The cost of relocation and the suffering that myself and my family has to go through."

Elsohemy testified last week that his participation in the police operation wasn't motivated by money, but by a desire to be a responsible Canadian citizen.

Abdelhaleem, 34, and 17 others were arrested and charged in the summer of 2006 in what Amara's sentencing judge characterized as a "spine-chilling" plot that, but for the intervention of Abdelhaleem and another police agent, would have been "the most horrific crime Canada has ever seen."

Elsohemy confirmed he received a payout of $500,000 and his parents and two brothers also received a total of $500,000.

The remaining $2.99 million consisted of money to cover costs for Elsohemy and several family members to relocate. Some of the figures were decided upon as fixed amounts, while the RCMP offered up to a certain amount for other costs, court heard.

The total amount offered differs drastically from what the other RCMP informant received after helping to snag the group. Mubin Shaikh received $300,000 from the Mounties.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Payout

Court documents itemized the various amounts Shaher Elsohemy received for helping the RCMP, including the following:

- $750,000 for the loss of Elsohemy's business
- $100,000 for Elsohemy's two cars
- $100,000 for "start-up" including furniture
- $200,000 in a category that had been blacked out on the document
- $40,000 for his parents' debts
- $30,000 for his youngest brother's car
- $100,000 for start-up for his youngest brother
- $100,000 for his older brother's debts
- $150,000 under another blacked out category
- Up to $900,000 for his home
- Up to $40,000 for dental work for his wife

King township may face legal action over power project

ENERGY Utility company Pristine Power Inc. said yesterday it is "disappointed" King township north of Toronto has adopted a bylaw that could delay its York Energy Centre project, saying it hasn't ruled out legal action in the matter.

"We are disappointed that the Township of King has chosen to implement the interim control bylaw," Pristine president and CEO Jeff Myers said in a release.

The bylaw allows the township to study certain land-use planning matters pertaining to the 393-megawatt, gas-fired generation facility.

"We are evaluating the potential impact of this ... as well as alternative actions that we may take including, but not limited to, appeals to the appropriate regulatory authorities and other legal remedies available to us," Myers said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Celebrity **Willis on set**

JOHN R. KENNEDY/FOR METRO TORONTO

Actor Bruce Willis is all smiles as he leaves a store on Dundas Street east of Spadina yesterday after filming a scene for his new movie, Red. Willis plays a retired CIA agent fighting to survive a plot to kill him. Mary-Louise Parker, Morgan Freeman and John Malkovich are among his co-stars.

Go Local program raising grades and lowering drug use in Toronto schools

HEATHER BUCHAN
for Metro Toronto

"A lot of the issues these students face are within themselves."
Sally Hakim, Go Local facilitator

EDUCATION For too many Toronto high schools, gang violence, drug abuse and surrounding community poverty, are everyday issues that plague their students. Statistics show that the higher the incidence of violence and drugs, the lower the rate of graduation.

But two local charities — Free the Children and the Ron White Foundation — have partnered to change this through a program called Go Local.

Go Local was launched last September in 20 schools across the GTA that hold the distinction of being "at-risk," meaning they're under-served or have few student resources.

Sally Hakim, Go Local's motivational speaker and facilitator, is herself a graduate of Monarch Park, one of the high schools benefiting from the program.

"The great thing about this program is that we don't tell (students) what they need to be passionate about," says Hakim. "We go in and find out what they are passionate about within their community and find ways to tackle those issues. We're planting seeds in their heads of what they would like to do within their community."

Hakim is part of a team that offers seminars and workshops to students, mostly in Grades 10 and 11, deemed most at-risk.

During the pilot program at Monarch Park, Free the Children said rates of drug use declined, grades went up, as did graduation rates and team spirit. And it was due to changed attitudes in students who had previously thought of themselves as writeoffs.

"A lot of the issues these students face are within themselves," says Hakim.

Go Local is funded by the Ron White Foundation, which held the first annual White Knight Gala last May, to raise money for Go Local.

On the web

- This year's White Knight Gala will take place on May 27. For more information, go to whiteknightgala.com or freethechildren.com.

Protesting prorogation
With the Canadians Against Proroguing Parliament Facebook group surpassing 200,000 members, volunteers in Toronto are gearing up for the coming anti-prorogation rally this Saturday at 1 p.m. in Yonge-Dundas Square. METRO NEWS SERVICES

TTC forms customer-service committee

Weeks after TTC riders were seeing red over a fare increase, token shortages and a major subway disruption, transit officials are preparing to appoint a blue-ribbon panel of private sector experts to help improve customer service.

Although he wouldn't say who would be on the panel, TTC chair Adam Giambrone suggested at least one airline industry representative might be among those appointed in the coming weeks.

Adam Giambrone

Riders and other city councillors on the Toronto Transit Commission will likely also play an advisory role, he said.

"The TTC has technology in place to inform its customers, directly, of service disruptions. Managing the face-to-face interactions with customers, however, is more challenging and, we believe requires a thorough review," says a memo before the transit commission Wednesday signed by Giambrone and TTC chief general manager Gary Webster.

The memo also refers to customer complaints "regarding the attitude and behaviour of some employees that are inconsistent with the expectations we all have."

"We've worked on building an expansion of the transit system, working on improvements to the TTC ... This is one area that remains unresolved," Giambrone told the Toronto Star.

An outside consultant would also be hired to review customer service training, customer interaction, complaints and technology at a cost likely in the tens of thousands of dollars, he said.

"What is key is that you do need an outside, fresh perspective," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Scarborough teacher charged with sexually assaulting ex-pupil

ACCUSED A 40-year-old teacher at a Scarborough elementary school is accused of sexual assaulting and sexual exploiting one of her former students.

The Toronto woman, who is accused of an "inappropriate relationship," with the ex-pupil, was arrested around 7 p.m. Monday.

A complaint from the student to police sparked the probe.

Toronto police Det. Const. Amanda Thornton would not disclose the student's gender or any details except that they are under age 18.

Mary Gowans

Mary Gowans and the student met at Joseph Howe Senior Public school on Winter Gardens Trail, police said. Students there are Grade 7 and 8.

The Toronto District School Board said Gowans is on "home assignment" while the investigation is ongoing.

Thornton said the complainant no longer goes to school at Joseph Howe.

"We're open to any further witnesses that may come forward," Thornton said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Recession, Dan Brown and more boost library use

READING AND MORE Dan Brown's books continue to be as hard to borrow as they are easy to read.

Figures from the Toronto Public Library for 2009 confirm what every would-be reader of The Lost Symbol already knew: The city's lovers of free books had Freemasons on their mind. In the highest-demand year ever, no book was demanded more than Brown's tale of Washington intrigue.

Library users checked out more than 31 million items (books, magazines, DVDs and other materials), up five per cent from the year before. Actual visits to the library's 99 branches jumped by 8.5 per cent, to 17.5 million.

Library officials credited several factors, including the recession, for the increases. Several factors made the library an attractive destination at this time, more readers turned to free books rather than buying new, and library increased resources to job seekers and free wireless Internet in all branches.

A more welcoming environment including permitting patrons to drink coffee or eat snacks in the library is another factor.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Soldier charged with attempted murder

Canadian Forces National Investigation Service has charged a soldier with attempted murder in connection with an incident at CFB Borden, near Barrie, Ont. Pte. Jorden Hardy is also charged with aggravated assault, assault and failing to comply with an undertaking or recognizance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Family search for missing ex-MP

A desperate search is on for a former federal parliamentarian missing in Haiti, with his loved ones directly involved in looking for him. The family of Serge Marcil, left has gone down to participate in the search, a week after he went missing in the powerful earthquake. His relatives are now in the neighbouring Dominican Republic, scouring a number of the country's hospitals. Many injured in the quake are being transported for treatment in the Dominican Republic. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian sailors land in Haiti

Haiti Crisis

LAGONE A group of Canadian sailors landed yesterday on the north shore of Haiti's southern peninsula, their ultimate destination a fishing village that was almost completely obliterated in last week's earthquake.

About 25 sailors from the destroyer HMCS Athabaskan, which loomed off shore in the distance, landed on the garbage-strewn beach in a small inflatable Zodiac.

Roughly 50 sailors were expected on shore by day's end, their principal responsibility to provide security and perform reconnaissance work in advance of the possible arrival of members of the Quebec-based Royal 22e Regiment.

Those soldiers are looking for a suitable location to deploy in Haiti, and Leogane is currently a strong contender.

The dirt-poor village, about a 90-minute drive west of the capital city of Port-au-Prince, was almost 90 per cent destroyed in the quake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local boys smile as they stand next to sailors from HMCS Athabaska in Leogane, Haiti, yesterday. Sailors have been deployed to Leogane to provide aid.

m.metronews.ca

ScanLife

Rising demand for hybrid and electric vehicles will mean big changes for government budgets, experts say. Scan this code for the story.

Feds commit $135M for Haiti aid efforts

2,000 military personnel arrive in region

Haiti Crisis

The federal government is boosting its monetary and manpower contributions to Haitian earthquake relief as donations by ordinary Canadians top $40 million.

Canada has committed up to $135 million to the relief efforts and is ready to deploy more police to help stabilize the increasingly volatile situation if needed, government ministers said yesterday.

Some 2,000 Canadian soldiers, sailors and air crew, including two warships, have arrived in or are en route to the towns of Jacmel and Leogane, about 40 kilometres southwest of Port-au-Prince. It could take two weeks to get the full contingent on the ground.

Leogane was at the epicentre of the Jan. 12 quake and 90 per cent of the town is flattened. Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean has childhood ties to Jacmel, a seaside town right along the fault line.

"The road to Jacmel is severely damaged and the port rendered inoperable, isolating it from the world," Defence Minister Peter MacKay told the daily briefing on Canadian efforts in Haiti.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

- A look at some of the latest news and numbers emerging from the Canadian relief effort in Haiti:
- Canadians missing: 699
- Canadians confirmed dead: 12
- Canadians located: 1,566
- Canadians believed to be in Haiti: More than 6,000
- Total death toll in Haiti: Roughly 200,000, estimates the European Union, quoting Haitian officials.

Arson case to be on America's Most Wanted
A three-year-old arson case involving fires in Edmonton and several other locations will be featured on America's Most Wanted. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper arrives for a swearing-in ceremony of cabinet ministers at Rideau Hall yesterday. With him, from left, are Labour Minister Lisa Raitt, Minister of National Revenue, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and Atlantic Gateway Keith Ashfield, Veterans Affairs Minister Jean-Pierre Blackburn, Treasury Board President Stockwell Day and Public Safety Minister Vic Toews.

PM shuffles cabinet

Most major portfolios remain untouched

Prime Minister Stephen Harper called it "fine-tuning the ministry," perhaps because "recalibrate" was already taken.

Three weeks after he shut down Parliament to give his minority government an extended winter break to "recalibrate" its agenda, Harper performed a minor makeover on his cabinet yesterday that left most major portfolios untouched.

"This is the cabinet that will lead us through the second and final phase of our economic action plan," Harper declared.

The cabinet changes, which touch on 13 portfolios, were headlined by a Conservative government pitch to wrestle down the staggering deficits that sprang seemingly from nowhere after the October 2008 election and threatens to march indefinitely into the future.

> **"This is the cabinet that will lead us through the second and final phase of our economic action plan."**
> Stephen Harper

Stockwell Day, the former flamboyant Canadian Alliance leader who has mellowed into a yeoman cabinet performer for Harper, was moved out of International Trade to the Treasury Board, where he has a mandate to keep a tight lid on public spending.

Day, asked about his future cabinet vocabulary, deadpanned: "I think you'll hear two words: No and no."

Senior economic portfolios, including Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, Industry Minister Tony Clement, Infrastructure and Transport Minister John Baird and Human Resources Minister Diane Finley were unchanged.

Also untouched were Defence, Environment, Foreign Affairs, Heritage Indian Affairs and Justice.

It is in essence the same crew that drove program spending up by 17.6 per cent over their first three years in power, slashed revenues by cutting two points off the GST, and is now projecting a $56-billion deficit for 2009-10.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Girl found guilty in senior's death

COURT A jury has found a 16-year-old Hampton, N.B.-area girl guilty of second-degree murder in the death of Frank Tonge last June.

The jury returned its verdict yesterday, just over a day after deliberations began.

The girl, who cannot be named, had been accused of stabbing the 78-year-old Tonge in the neck last summer at his Damascus, N.B., home.

She was charged with first-degree murder, but the jury had the option of finding her guilty of a lesser charge.

The defence argued that the girl, who was 15 at the time, was a victim of a sexually abusive relationship and was acting in self-defence.

She returns to court for sentencing Feb. 19.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winners, losers after changes made to Conservative cabinet

POLITICS A look back at yesterday's federal cabinet shuffle:

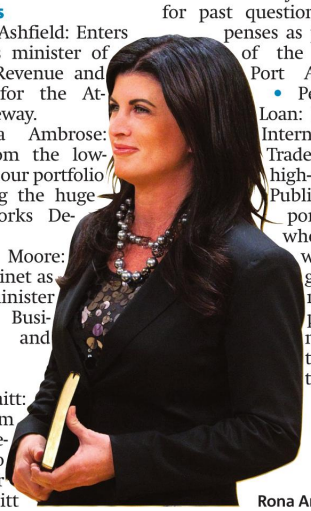
Winners

- Keith Ashfield: Enters cabinet as minister of National Revenue and minister for the Atlantic Gateway.
- Rona Ambrose: Moves from the low-profile Labour portfolio to running the huge Public Works Department.
- Rob Moore: Enters cabinet as junior minister for Small Business and Tourism.

Losers

- Lisa Raitt: Moves from Natural Resources to the Labour post. Raitt stirred controversy by referring to the medical-isotope crisis as a "sexy" issue and for past questionable expenses as president of the Toronto Port Authority.
- Peter Van Loan: Moves to International Trade from the high-profile Public Safety portfolio, where he was the government's point man on terrorism threats.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Rona Ambrose

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Rogers Extra Value Plan
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VoiceMail, Call Display, Call Waiting, Call Return, Three Way Calling, Call Forwarding

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Ottawa apartment building destroyed in blaze
A four-alarm fire in the Glebe district of Ottawa has destroyed an 18-unit apartment building and left dozens of residents homeless. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economy still needs props: Carney

It will be another year before the Canadian economy can stand on its own feet without government assistance, the Bank of Canada said yesterday.

The slightly pessimistic assessment came as the central bank signalled in no uncertain terms that it was in no hurry to move off historically low interests rates, saying they are still needed to stimulate borrowing and business expansion.

And it revised downward — ever so slightly — its previous forecasts on growth for this year while raising it slightly for next year.

The key message governor Mark Carney sought to impart was that both the Canadian and global economies may be improving, but that they are still primarily being propped up by massive government spending, and historically low interest rates, along with other measures.

Under capacity

- The Bank of Canada council noted that the Canadian economy is operating 3.5 per cent under capacity and that the private sector won't likely become the "sole driver" of demand growth until 2011.

With that in mind, the bank kept its trendsetting overnight interest rate at 0.25 per cent, the lowest in history, and again pledged to keep it there for the next six months.

To reinforce the commitment, it extended its emergency lending instruments to April, allowing chartered banks to access funds at the historically low rate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oval Flame's Calgary return

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former Olympic speedskater Susan Auch skates around the Olympic Oval, site of the 1988 Calgary Olympic speedskating event, with the Vancouver 2010 Olympic flame in Calgary, yesterday. **Follow the Olympic torch's journey with an interactive map at metronews.ca/sports.**

Court rules Jan. 27 on delay in case of baby on life support

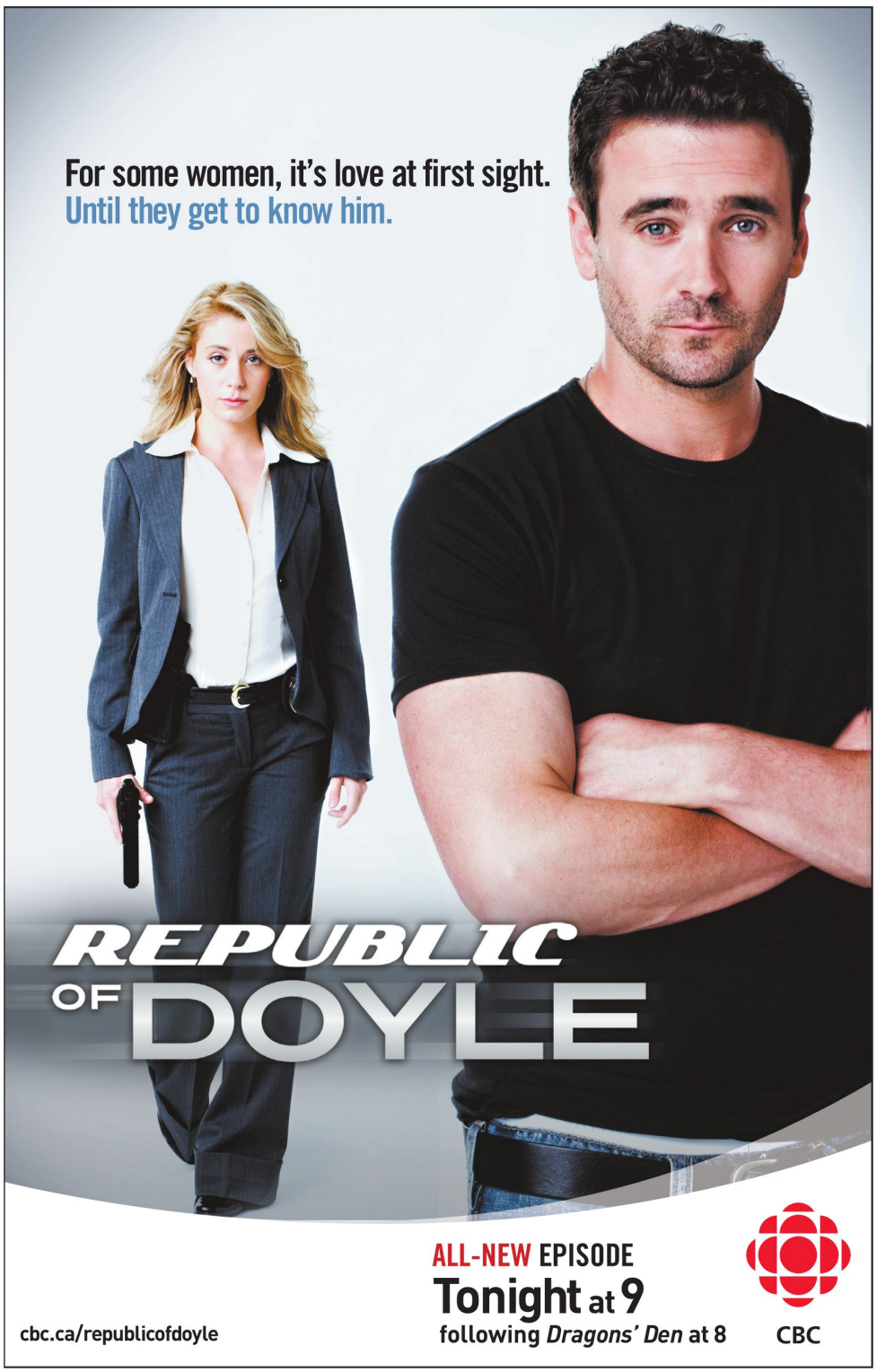
EDMONTON Little Isaiah May has been give more time to live so lawyers and medical experts can review whether he should remain hooked up to a hospital ventilator.

Officials with Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton had indicated they planned to unplug the three-month-old baby from the breathing machine today because they say there is no hope he will ever develop normally on his own.

His young parents, Rebecka and Isaac May, argue their only son is improving. They have asked Court of Queen's Bench for a 90-day delay so they can obtain an independent medical review of his case.

Alberta Health Services says a 30-day review would make more sense. Justice Michelle Crighton is to rule Jan. 27 on how long the delay will be.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ukrainian opposition leader takes lead in preliminary results
Ukraine's Central Election Commission has announced full preliminary results of the first round of the presidential election, confirming opposition leader Viktor Yanukoyvch's 10-point lead over Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Clinton to Montreal for Haiti talks

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is scheduled to travel next Monday to Montreal for meetings meant to prepare for a donors' conference to raise money for victims of Haiti's earthquake. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley told reporters yesterday that no date has yet been set for the conference. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICARDO ARDUENGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A five-month-old baby boy is nursed by Avi Berman Monday at the Israeli Field Hospital in Port-au-Prince.

What's ahead for nation of orphans?

Haiti Crisis

HAITI The five-month-old patient at the Israeli field hospital has a number rather than a name. No one even knows who dropped the barely conscious child at the makeshift medical centre after he was pulled from the debris of a collapsed building four days after last week's catastrophic quake. Now recovering, doctors have a difficult decision ahead.

Tens of thousands of children have been orphaned by the earthquake, aid groups say — so many that officials won't venture a number. Even before the deadly magnitude-7.0 earthquake, Haiti, one of the world's poorest countries, was awash in orphans, with 380,000 children living in orphanages or group homes, the United Nations Children's Fund reported on its website.

International advocacy groups are trying to help, either by speeding up adoptions that were in progress, or by sending in relief personnel to evacuate thousands of orphans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Americans cheered

U.S. troops land at presidential palace; UN adds more security

Haiti Crisis

U.S. troops landed on the lawn of Haiti's shattered presidential palace to the cheers of quake victims yesterday, and the UN said it would throw more police and soldiers into the sluggish global effort to aid the devastated country.

The UN forces are aimed at quelling the outbursts of violence that have slowed distribution of supplies, leaving many Haitians still without help a week after the magnitude-7.0 quake killed an estimated 200,000 people.

Looters were rampaging through part of downtown Port-au-Prince even as the Security Council voted to add 2,000 troops to the 7,000 military peacekeepers already in the country, as well as 1,500 more police to the 2,100-strong international force.

RAMON ESPINOSA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man defends himself and an item he looted yesterday in downtown Port-au-Prince.

Haitians jammed the fence of the palace grounds to gawk and cheer as U.S. troops emerged from six Navy helicopters.

"We are happy that they are coming," said Fede Felissaint, a hairdresser.

"If they want, they can stay longer than in 1915," he said, a reference to the start of a 19-year U.S. military presence in Haiti — something U.S. officials have repeatedly insisted they have no intention of repeating.

Aid workers have distributed more than 250,000 daily food rations, with about half coming from the U.S. military, according to the World Food Program. But that is still far short of the need, and the UN agency managed to feed only half the 100,000 people it planned to reach Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

MASSACHUSETTS In a major upset in liberal Massachusetts, Republican Scott Brown rode a wave of voter anger to defeat Democrat Martha Coakley in a U.S. Senate election yesterday that may leave President Barack Obama's health-care overhaul in doubt. The loss by the once-favoured Coakley for the seat that the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy held for nearly half a century signalled big political problems for the president's party this fall.

VIRGINIA A lone shooter killed eight people yesterday in central Virginia, and police had the suspect circled in the woods last night. The drama paralyzed the rural area as police tried to flush out the suspect who, at one point in the manhunt, fired at a state police helicopter, forcing it to land with a ruptured fuel tank.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ScanLife

Testimony at war crimes trial reveals Ukrainian guards played key role in Nazi-era death camps. Scan this code for the story.

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Labour action expected at Irish airports today

Air traffic controllers plan to ground flights at Ireland's three major airports for at least four hours today to push for pay raises. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel accused of trying to crush political dissent

Israel is arresting a growing number of prominent opponents to its policies toward the Palestinians, say critics who are accusing the government of trying to crush legitimate dissent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

In this December file photo, Israeli police detain a left-wing activist during a demonstration in east Jerusalem.

In the most high-profile case yet, Jerusalem police detained the leader of a leading Israeli human rights group during a vigil against the eviction of Palestinian families whose homes were taken by Jewish settlers.

Since the summer, dozens of Palestinian and Israeli activists have been picked up, including those organizing weekly protests against Israel's West Bank separation barrier as well as others advocating international boycotts of Israeli goods.

The arrests come at a time of shifting tactics in protests against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and annexation of east Jerusalem, territories the Palestinians want for their future state.

The violence of the second Palestinian uprising, with mass marches and violent attacks, has given way to carefully calibrated protests and legal action in which Israeli and Palestinian activists now often work together. At Friday's protest, police arrested 17 Israelis, including Hagai Elad, head of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

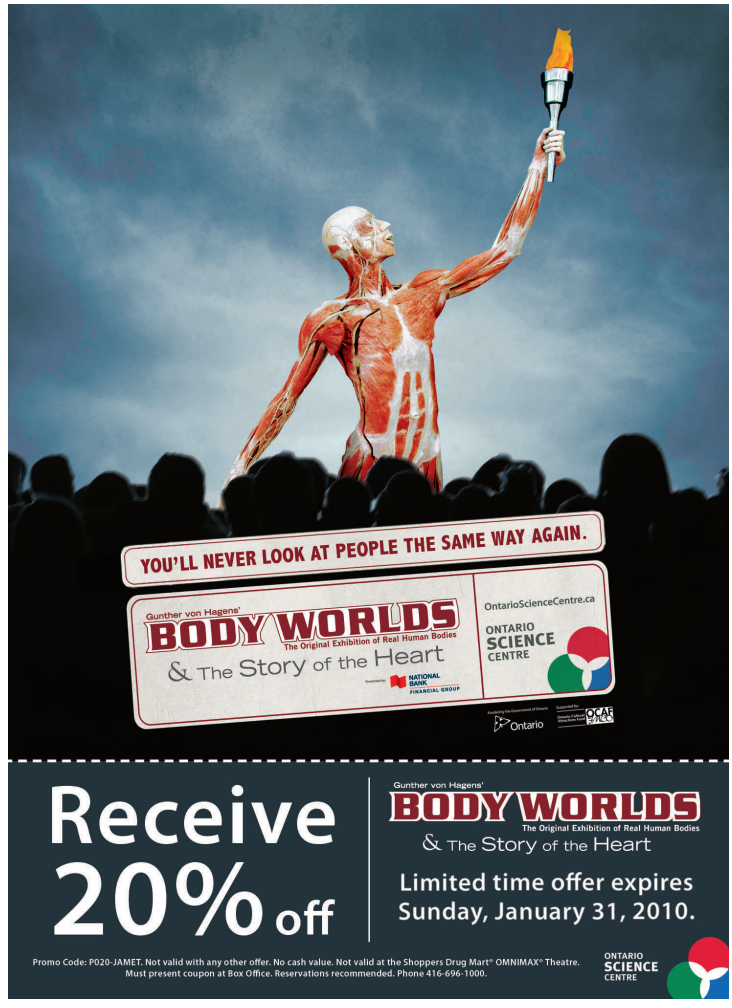
Elad said the arrests represent a "dramatic increase in attempts to silence dissent," which he believes began during last year's offensive in Gaza.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

NUCLEAR Iran has issued a formal response effectively rejecting an international proposal that it quickly export most of the material it would need to make a nuclear warhead, diplomats said yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Muscovites remember slain lawyer, journalist
More than 500 activists rallied in Moscow yesterday in memory of a human rights lawyer and a journalist slain by a masked gunman a year ago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing keeps 20M in Internet blackout

They arrive at Liuyuan weary from a 13-hour train ride but determined. The promised land lies across the railway station: A large sign that says "Easy Connection Internet Cafe."

The visitors are Internet refugees from China's western Xinjiang region, whose 20 million people have been without links to the outside world since the government blocked virtually all online access, text messages and international phone calls after ethnic riots in July. It's the largest and longest such blackout in the world, observers say.

Every weekend, dozens of people pile off the train in Liuyuan, a desert town that's the first train stop outside Xinjiang, 650 kilometres east of Urumqi, the regional capital. One customer travelled 1,200 kilometres just to get online.

Authorities unplugged Xinjiang to prevent a repeat of the ethnic rioting between the Han Chinese majority and the mainly Muslim Uighur minority. Beijing blamed overseas activists, saying they stirred up resentment in the Uighur community through websites and emails.

For many, it feels like being thrown back in time 30 years. Xinjiang now has no email. No blogs. No instant messaging. The government this month promised Internet access would resume "gradually," but it said the same thing in July and not much has changed. Only four restricted websites, half of them state-run media, have returned.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VINCENT THIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People surf the web inside an Internet cafe in Dunhuang, in northwest China's Gansu province.

Sensitive issues

- Some former Soviet Union countries have shut the Internet during sensitive elections, but "the blackout only lasted for hours or days at most," said the Open Net Initiative, a Harvard-linked partnership that monitors Internet restrictions around the world.

We are 1,100 developmental services workers at 90 workplaces across Toronto & provide services to 6,000 individuals with intellectual disabilities.

We are members of CUPE Local 2191 and have been in bargaining with Community Living Toronto (CLT) for over 10 months.

We work with wonderful people with intellectual disabilities – they are your family, friends and neighbours – we care about them and their well-being.

On January 11, we bargained for 20 straight hours with CLT and thought we could reach a settlement with another day of bargaining.

However, at 5 a.m. CLT asked the Ministry of Labour to get involved, and as a result we can be locked out on January 30.

We will also be in a legal strike position that same day. **We do NOT want to strike. We want to negotiate a fair deal and stay on the job providing support for the individuals in service and their families.**

We will meet with a mediator on January 25. We firmly believe if CLT is committed to a fair settlement, it is achievable.

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Comment

Fewer jewels, more forethought

TheWestView

Rush Limbaugh is an appalling person. In the wake of the Haiti earthquake, he responded to U.S. President Barack Obama's plea for donations by advising his radio audience not to respond: "We've already donated. It's called the U.S. income tax."

When it comes down to the angels versus Rush Limbaugh, you always want to be on the side of the angels. But you also have to wonder about the angels.

With the best of intentions, the angels (including all the minor deities: Celebrities, the media, well-meaning politicos and, above all, Bono) are contributing to disaster fatigue.

Case in point: Did you watch the Golden Globes Sunday? A parade of (literally) overexposed starlets took to the stage, each wearing a ribbon to express solidarity with the people of Haiti, along with hundreds of thousands of dollars in gowns, jewels and boob jobs, each solemnly encouraging me to give, apparently unaware of the unattractive juxtaposition.

Point 2. In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, various celebrity journalists wandered around the devastation that was once Port-Au-Prince, poking cameras into the faces of dazed survivors, lamenting the devastation. Not one hair out of place. I kept waiting for one of them to put the damn mike down, roll up designer sleeves, and get to work. Or at least give someone a drink of water.

I'm not done yet: This Friday, various superstars will get together and stage a good old-fashioned telethon, thanks to the noble efforts of George Clooney. More jewels and gowns for disaster. Right after the show, you'll be able to download the tunes, with all the proceeds going to Haiti. Please ignore the subtle undercurrent of exploitation.

Meanwhile, rescue forces haven't even tallied up all the dead, while they have to cope with aftershocks, looters, disease and unimaginable deprivation.

I'm not sure how much of this is helping and how much of it is marketing. Haven't we learned anything about nature's capacity to kick the poor of the world in the teeth, and can't we get there with food, water and rescue faster? Why does it always seem that the governments of the world have been taken by surprise, and it's up to you and me to bail them out? Isn't it time to change the script?

I realize Haiti needs to be rebuilt from the ground up, but I wonder if we could do with fewer gowns and jewels and more forethought and effective response.

And if that makes me more like Rush Limbaugh and less like Bono, I guess I'll have to live with it.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Today is the one-year anniversary of Barack Obama's inauguration. Has Obama met your expectations as president of the U.S.?

Walter Borys
Toronto
A: Politicians are basically, well, figureheads ... These people are irrelevant ... So to say that he has been more effective is meaningless in a way ... I really have no opinion at all.

Hind Omer
Toronto
A: That's not fair ... He's only been president for one year. Bush was there for eight years ... I think he's done the best he can in one year ... You can't expect miracles.

Matthew Skura
Toronto
A: I think there was a lot of hype and I'm not sure if he's really lived up to it ... He made a lot of promises. I think now he's starting to realize the pros and cons of what he's said.

Brittany Barnett
Halifax
A: I would say people are happy with him, but we're still kind of waiting for the big changes to occur.

Ryan Nairn
Ottawa
A: No, not really. He's done what every other president has done. I think there is someone bigger than him that tells him what to do.

Katelynn Fraser
Calgary
A: I think he has potential to bring the United States out of the economic meltdown, so I think he has lived up to expectations.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Dorel building design centre in Indiana
Montreal-based Dorel Industries plans to spend $20.8 million US by 2013 to build a design centre at its main car seat manufacturing plant in Columbus, Ind. Dorel is the world's largest manufacturer of safety car seats for infants and children. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

XM Radio shifts gears

Eyes younger non-car users

Satellite radio still depends heavily upon automotive subscribers for its revenue but that will have to change, with a shift into mobile Internet and GPS markets crucial to its future, says the head of Canada's second-largest satellite radio provider.

About 90 per cent of XM Canada's new subscribers are tuning in in their cars and drivers make up about 54 per cent of its overall customer base, but XM is poised to target a younger demographic immersed in iPhones and other web-enabled smartphone technology, according to CEO Michael Moskowitz.

Looking to the future, the company has launched iPhone and iPod Touch applications to offer its more than 100 radio stations to the earbuds of commuters who don't own cars.

"The early response is very encouraging, the conversion of trial customers to paying subscribers is exceeding our expectations," Moskowitz said.

23% XM reported a 23 per cent spike in self-paying subscribers to 400,000 in 2009, while revenue increased 33 per cent year-over-year.

The Toronto-based company, owned by Canadian Satellite Radio Holdings, relies on an automotive backbone that has lent it stability even as the car industry struggles to return to growth. The company said a recent survey among auto customers showed satellite radio is more popular with drivers than traditional radio, CD, or the iPod.

The company is also pursuing other expansions of its satellite services following the launch of an Internet-streamed weather service for pilots and boaters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Denison says it's found more uranium in Saskatchewan

MINING Denison Mines Corp. says a drilling program at its Wheeler River property in Saskatchewan has confirmed the potential of "an economically significant, high-grade uranium deposit." Denison will explore the area, known as the Phoenix discovery, in 2010 through a $6-million drill program.

The Toronto-based uranium miner operates and holds a 60 per cent interest in the Wheeler River property. Cameco Corp., the world's largest uranium miner, holds 30 per cent and Japan's JCU (Canada) Exploration Co. Ltd. holds the remaining 10 per cent.

Denison has assets in Saskatchewan, Colorado, Utah and Arizona.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Citigroup Repays bailout money

SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Citigroup said yesterday it lost $7.58 billion US during the final three months of 2009 as consumers still struggled to repay loans and the bank repaid its bailout money. Citigroup was the bank hit hardest by the credit crisis and recession, receiving $45 billion in bailout money. Citigroup raised $20 billion to repay bailout funds while the government converted $25 billion of the bailout money into a 34 per cent stake in the bank. It said it would sell its shares over the next year.

Gas station operators sue Suncor

LAWSUIT Suncor Energy Inc. faces a class-action lawsuit from 300 Sunoco gas station operators whose franchise agreements were ended following the Calgary energy giant's merger with Petro-Canada.

The suit, with Richmond Hill retailer TA&K Enterprises named as the plaintiff, is seeking damages of up to $200 million.

It follows Suncor's internal announcement last week of its intention to terminate the retailer franchise agreements of all 300 of its independent Sunoco retailers in Ontario.

As a condition for its union with Petro-Canada, the Competition Bureau required Suncor to sell 104 retail outlets, mostly in southern Ontario where the two companies had overlapping businesses. The remaining Sunoco-branded stations are switching to the Petro-Canada banner.

Calgary energy company Husky Energy has agreed to buy 98 of Suncor's retail outlets, but it is under no obligation to keep the current operators.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ScanLife

Feel like you missed the boat on the 2009 market rally? A new study suggests you're far from alone. Scan this code for the story.

Business in brief

TECH SHIFT Tablets and clouds could be the technology buzzwords of 2010. Duncan Stewart, director of research at Deloitte Canada, says there will be a 50 per cent surge in the popularity of cloud computing, which allows users to store their documents and files in cyberspace. Stewart also says the net tablet — a touch-screen device designed to fill the gap between a smartphone and a laptop — could generate more than $1 billion in 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sweetened offer melts Cadbury's resistance

TAKEOVER After months of fierce resistance, Cadbury's about-face to accept a sweetened $19.5-billion US takeover from Kraft Foods Inc. — forming the world's biggest candy company — has alarmed British unions, lawmakers and chocolate lovers.

With Cadbury shareholders expected to agree to the deal and a rival bid from The Hershey Co. looking less likely, opponents fear the U.S. multinational's impact on one of Britain's oldest and best-loved brands.

Roots

- Cadbury's roots go back to the grocery store opened in 1824 by John Cadbury in Birmingham, England. A Quaker, Cadbury believed cocoa and drinking chocolate were healthy alternatives to alcohol.

Just days after Cadbury declared its suitor a "low-growth" company with a "long history of underperformance," the British maker of Dairy Milk chocolates and Dentyne gum capitulated to a raised bid of $13.78 per share.

The merger would create the world's biggest confectionary company, replacing Mars Inc. But unions are worried there were no clear guarantees Kraft won't switch manufacturing of some of the 186-year-old Cadbury's chocolates to eastern Europe, sacrificing British jobs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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1,400 workers to be let go at Finnish ship turbine builder

Wartsila Corp., a leading maker of ship turbines in Finland, said yesterday it would lay off 1,400 workers worldwide and cut production to save costs and increase competitiveness. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

87% missed 2009 stock rally, survey finds

MARKET It looks like 2009 may be remembered as the year most Canadians missed the boat as far as the dramatic recovery in stocks is concerned, according to a survey conducted for Franklin Templeton Investments.

The online survey of 1,019 adults by Angus Reid Public Opinion found 87 per cent of Canadians failed to buy into the rally on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Investments

- According to the Jan. 4-5 survey, 58 per cent of respondents either did not plan to make new investments in 2010 or had not decided what to do.

As well, the survey indicated that an almost equal number, 86 per cent, remained unaware of the extent of the rally that saw the S&P/TSX Composite Index surge 30.7 per cent last year.

Despite the market's recovery and an improving Canadian economy, the survey found investor skepticism and fear were rising.

Forty per cent of respondents describe their current investment personality as either "suspicious" or "timid," up six points from February 2009. THE CANADIAN PRESS

JUNJI KURAWA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan Airlines' first class check-in counter staff talks on the phone at Haneda Airport in Tokyo, Japan yesterday. Japan Airlines filed for one of the country's largest bankruptcies ever yesterday.

Debt crushes airline

Japan Airlines filed for one of the country's largest bankruptcies ever yesterday, entering a restructuring that will shrink Asia's top carrier by thousands of jobs and reduce its presence around the world.

Staggering under a $25.6-billion US debt mountain, the carrier applied for protection from creditors under the Corporate Rehabilitation Law — Japan's version of Chapter 11 — with the Tokyo District Court.

Japan's flagship airline will slash nearly 16,000 jobs, reduce pensions for retired staff, cut routes and shift to more fuel-efficient aircraft as part of its restructuring.

Some $10 billion of government cash will keep JAL's planes in the air during the reorganization. Lenders will forgive $8 billion in debt, and JAL shares will be removed from the Tokyo Stock Exchange on Feb. 20, wiping out investors.

There was no word on the outcome of a fierce tug-of-war between Delta Air Lines and American Airlines for a slice of JAL's business.

Despite its woes, the airline's access to Asia is a mouthwatering prize for foreign airlines.

A state-backed turnaround agency pledged 900 billion yen in financial support for JAL — 600 billion yen in credit lines and a 300 billion yen cash infusion. The bankruptcy is the fourth-largest in Japan, according to figures from Teikoku Databank, which tracks corporate failures.

"This is not the end of JAL," transport minister Seiji Maehara told reporters. "Today is the beginning of a process to keep JAL alive."

JAL President Haruka Nishimatsu resigned, bowing deeply as he apologized for the company's troubles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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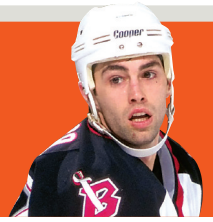

Peca retires after 13 seasons

Michael Peca, left, is retiring from hockey. The 35-year-old announced yesterday that he's calling it quits after 13 seasons in the NHL. Peca spent last season with the Columbus Blue Jackets and was unsigned this year. Peca won gold with Team Canada at the 2002 Olympics and was part of two Stanley Cup finalists — the 1999 Buffalo Sabres and 2006 Edmonton Oilers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Bad day for Canadians Down Under

AUSTRALIAN OPEN Canadians were shut out of the second round of the Australian Open women's singles draw after Aleksandra Wozniak and Stephanie Dubois both lost their opening matches today.

Wozniak, ranked 34th in the world entering the first major of the year, lost to Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki. The tournament's fourth seed triumphed in straight sets, 6-4, 6-2.

The 22-year-old from Blainville, Que., was named The Canadian Press female athlete of the year for 2009 after an encouraging campaign that saw her near the top 20 of the WTA rankings.

Meanwhile, Hungary's Agnes Szavay advanced with a 6-3, 6-2 win over Dubois, a native of Laval, Que.

Dubois was ranked 103rd coming into the tournament.

The other Canadian in the main draw, Valerie Tetreault of Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Que., lost to former No. 1 Kim Clijsters 6-3, 4-6, 6-1 Monday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cavs cut down Raps

NBA RESULTS

Raptors 100 Cavaliers 108

LeBron James scored 28 points and Mo Williams added 22 as the Cleveland Cavaliers began a long stretch of home games over the next month with a 108-100 win over the Toronto Raptors last night.

James added 11 assists and nine rebounds as the Cavs, who just returned from a long road trip, improved to 15-3 at Quicken Loans Arena, where they will play 10 of their next 12 before Feb. 19. The Eastern Conference leaders will host the Los Angeles Lakers tomorrow night.

Cleveland's Shaquille O'Neal added 16 points and became the fifth player in NBA history to surpass 28,000 in his career.

Chris Bosh scored 21 for Toronto, but was limited to just five after halftime. Andrea Bargnani finished with 19.

O'Neal joined Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (38,387), Karl Malone (36,928), Michael Jordan (32,292) and Wilt Chamberlain (31,419) as the only players to reach the milestone.

O'Neal, who is in his first season with Cleveland, was saluted by the crowd during a timeout in the first quarter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cleveland Cavalier Shaquille O'Neal scores in front of Toronto Raptors Chris Bosh last night. The Cavaliers won 108-100.

No arbitration for Jays as players meet deadline

Alex Anthopoulos continues to change the way the Toronto Blue Jays do business, and yesterday that resulted in the signing of all five of the team's arbitration eligible players well ahead of spring training.

Working to beat a deadline imposed by the new general manager, closer Jason Frasor ($2.65 million US), lefty Brian Tallet ($2 million) and right-handed relievers Shawn Camp ($1.15 million), Jeremy Accardo ($1.08 million) and Casey Janssen ($700,000) each agreed to one-year deals.

The exchange of salary figures between teams and players was due by 11:59 p.m. yesterday and Anthopoulos had informed the agents for his players that if things got that far, their next meeting would be at an arbitration hearing.

But push never came to shove, and the Blue Jays will go another year since their last hearing with Bill Risley in 1997. The deadline may not have been critical in securing the agreements, but it helped wrap up negotiations faster than normal.

"For the most part, two things get deals done — deadlines and having some type of momentum," said Anthopoulos. "The policy we put in place, all it did and all it was designed to do was encourage more dialogue."

A busy day for the club also included the signings of outfielder Jeremy Reed, who will compete for a starting job in either right or left, and right-hander Steven Register, a bullpen candidate, to minor-league contracts. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Around the bigs

- Two-time NL Cy Young Award winner Tim Lincecum asked for a record $13 million US in salary arbitration yesterday, while the San Francisco Giants offered their ace $8 million.
- Felix Hernandez and the Seattle Mariners are closing in on a five-year contract, according to a person familiar with the negotiations.
- The Detroit Tigers have filled their hole at closer, agreeing to terms with Jose Valverde on a two-year contract with a club option for a third.

Sports in brief

UFC The UFC hopes to stick with its May 1 date for UFC 113 in Montreal, but will likely change it if there is a clash with a marquee boxing pay-per-view. The concern is over rumblings that Floyd Mayweather may meet Shane Mosley the same day in Las Vegas.

NFL Deuce McAllister says he's retiring from pro football. McAllister hasn't played since 2008 but briefly rejoined the New Orleans Saints last week to serve as an honorary captain for the club's playoff win over Arizona Saturday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kovalchuk scores twice as Leafs lose

NHL RESULTS

Leafs 3 Thrashers 4

Ilya Kovalchuk scored two goals, giving him 30 for the season, and the Atlanta Thrashers beat Toronto 4-3 last night to extend the Maple Leafs' road woes.

The Thrashers scored four straight goals after Alexei Ponikarovsky's two first-period goals in a span of 32 seconds.

Rich Peverley's power-play goal 28 seconds into the third period broke a 2-2 tie.

Kovalchuk's second goal gave Atlanta a 4-2 lead 4:20 into the third period.

Toronto's Niklas Hagman scored 1:23 later, but Ondrej Pavelec, who stopped 37 shots, held on for his third win in his past four starts.

Vesa Toskala stopped 28 shots in his first regulation loss in nine career games against Atlanta.

Kovalchuk and Evander Kane had second-period goals for Atlanta.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SCANLIFE
Sergio Garcia has some advice for his troubled colleague Tiger Woods.
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SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Atlanta 4 TORONTO 3
Philadelphia 5 Columbus 3
Washington 3 Detroit 2
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Rangers
Chicago at Ottawa
N.Y. Islanders at Pittsburgh
Buffalo at Anaheim
San Jose at Los Angeles

NBA

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Earthquake takes big toll on Haiti's football federation

Caribbean football officials say at least 30 members of Haiti's football federation have died in the country's earthquake. In a report to world governing body FIFA yesterday, the Caribbean Football Union said the dead included players, referees, coaches, and administrative and medical officials of the federation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

NBA Kevin Garnett is practising again with the Boston Celtics after missing the last nine games with a hyperextended right knee. Garnett took part in the entire practice yesterday, but coach Doc Rivers said he won't play tonight in Detroit.

NHL The Minnesota Wild have placed right-winger Petr Sykora on waivers. He had only two goals and one assist in 14 games with Minnesota, missing nearly two months while recovering from a concussion.

NFL Former San Francisco 49ers coach Mike Nolan has been hired as the Miami Dolphins' defensive co-ordinator. The Dolphins hired Nolan yesterday, less than 24 hours after the announcement of his departure as defensive co-ordinator for the Denver Broncos.

QMJHL Mikael Tam has left hospital, but it remains uncertain how long the Quebec Remparts defenceman will be out of action after a nasty hit to the head from Rouyn-Noranda Huskies centre Patrice Cormier.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Buffalo's search ends as Gailey named head coach

BILLS Chan Gailey was hired by the Buffalo Bills yesterday, getting a second chance to prove himself as an NFL coach and inheriting a team that has missed the playoffs for 10 straight years.

Chan Gailey

Gailey was introduced by general manager Buddy Nix at a new conference that ended a two-month search to replace Dick Jauron, who was fired in November. Gailey takes over a team that finished 6-10 and becomes the Bills' fifth coach since Marv Levy retired after the 1997 season.

Gailey has spent 15 of his 38 years of coaching in the NFL. In his two years coaching the Dallas Cowboys, he went 18-14 and led the team to consecutive playoff appearances — both losses. He was dismissed after the 1999 season, and Cowboys owner Jerry Jones has acknowledged his mistake in firing Gailey.

The 58-year-old Gailey acknowledged he didn't know if he would get another opportunity to be a head coach again.

"If you sit there and say you lose confidence in yourself, no you don't. But then you see opportunities go by. And you hope that your body of work will speak for itself," Gailey said.

For Nix, it was Gailey's extensive background that impressed him and met most of the criteria the GM set out when he took over the search two weeks ago.

"This guy met more of the criteria than I thought we could find," Nix said. "He'll get us back to winning and get to where we want to go."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ABELIMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

Alexei Ponikarovsky, who has been incredibly streaky this year, is one of the Leafs' best trade chips.

Pony's time to go

TheHockeyNews

Last week, I suggested the Maple Leafs should trade star blue-liner Tomas Kaberle if they want to speed up the rebuilding of the franchise.

But Kaberle isn't the sole member of the current roster who should be shipped out.

In fact, with 10 players scheduled to be unrestricted free agents this summer, Toronto GM Brian Burke will face a slew of difficult decisions on who to keep past the March 3 trade deadline.

Here's one soul's opinion on what the Leafs ought to do with their prominent pending free agents:

Alexei Ponikarovsky:

He's second on the team in goals and could set a new personal best in that regard this season. But he's also one of Toronto's streakiest players — he's gone goalless in at least four straight games on four different occasions this season — and other than Kaberle, he could get the best return of any Leaf.

TRADE HIM

Matt Stajan:

Stajan also is streaky — he had a 10-game scoreless skid and a 12-gamer before that — and simply isn't the front-line centre team management hoped he'd become. Time to cut ties.

TRADE HIM.

Lee Stempniak:

One of the Leafs' nicest guys, Stempniak takes heat mainly for his whopping $3.5 million annual salary. If Burke could re-sign him for a million or two less than that, that would be reason to keep him. But Stempniak could also help a playoff team's scoring depth.

KEEP HIM, but only if the price is right.

Wayne Primeau:

He'll be 34 next year, but Primeau is a pro's pro and won't be expensive to re-sign. If Burke is clearing out many of the worker bee types from the roster, Primeau is one he should retain.

KEEP HIM

Vesa Toskala:

What, you think there's any hope the Leafs are keeping the inconsistent, injury-prone Toskala? Silly rabbit.

In case you missed the sarcasm, TRADE HIM — if you can sucker another team into taking him.

The Hockey News
thn.com

METRO HOCKEY POOL STANDINGS*

Sponsored by Money Mart

NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Joanne Doiron	NB, CA	574	232	346	578
2. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	603	259	315	574
3. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	577	232	339	571
3. Jean-Paul Osborne	QC, CA	596	233	338	571
3. Shawn Tschritter	AB, CA	593	231	340	571
6. Brian B	AB, CA	592	236	334	570
7. Cole Warren	NS, CA	584	206	359	565
7. Jonathon Gremsperger	BC, CA	599	241	324	565
9. Feroz Mir	ON, CA	594	224	334	558
9. Steve Ferguson	ON, CA	593	235	323	558
11. Tom Collier	NS, CA	608	252	305	557
12. Paula Almeida-Stille		592	234	321	555
12. Stephen Stille	ON, CA	592	234	321	555
14. Matty Strathearn	NS, CA	602	236	318	554
15. Brad Goertz	BC, CA	570	196	357	553

* Results exclude Quebec

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0% APR† Purchase financing for 36 months

MADE IN CANADA

HWY 5.6L/100 KM (50 MPG)† CITY 7.5L/100 KM (38 MPG)†

2010 RAV4

drive away price◆ $26,219 Includes freight and fees

drive away lease $258◆@4.5% APR per month for 48 months with $5,400 down. Includes freight and fees.

0.9% APR† Purchase financing for 36 months

MADE IN CANADA

HWY 6.9L/100 KM (41 MPG)† CITY 9.4L/100 KM (30 MPG)†

2010 Venza

drive away price◆ $30,784 Includes freight and fees

drive away lease $348◆@4.9% APR per month for 48 months with $4,775 down. Includes freight and fees.

3.9% APR† Purchase financing for 48 months

HWY 7.1L/100 KM (40 MPG)† CITY 10.2L/100 KM (28 MPG)†

Ramil Madarang
General Sales Manager

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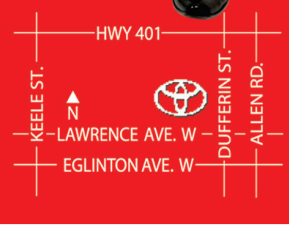

Limited time lease and finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. ✧Drive Away Price of a new 2010 Matrix (Model KU4EEMA), 2010 Corolla (Model BU42EMA), 2010 RAV4 (Model ZF4DVPA) and 2010 Venza (Model ZA3BBTA) is $18,019/$16,814/$26,219/$30,784. Drive away price includes freight and fees (PDE, dealer fees, EHF, air condition tax, where applicable and OMVIC fee). GST/PST, TFFC, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. ¥0%/0%/0.9%/3.9% finance APR per month for 36/36/36/48 months. Example $10,000 at 0%/0.9%/3.9% at 36/36/48 months, monthly payment is $278/$282/$226. Cost of borrowing is $0/$152/$848 for a total obligation of $10,000/$10,152/$10,848. ‼2.5%/2.5% lease APR for 48/48 months on a new 2010 Matrix (Model KU4EEMA) and 2010 Corolla (Model BU42EMA). When you apply the $500/$500 Customer Incentive monthly payment is $148/$148 with a $4,320/$3,725 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $11,429/$10,833. Drive away lease includes freight and fees (PDE, dealer fees, EHF, air condition tax, where applicable and OMVIC fee). GST/PST, licensing, registration, insurance and TFFC are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Based on a maximum of 96,000 KMS. Additional KM charge of $.07/$.07 for excess kilometres if applicable. *4.5%/4.9% lease APR for 48/48 months. Monthly payment is $258/$348 with a $5,400/$4,775 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $17,795/$21,497. Drive away lease includes freight and fees (PDE, dealer fees, EHF, air condition tax, where applicable and OMVIC fee). GST/PST, licensing, registration, insurance and TFFC are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Based on a maximum of 96,000 KMS. Additional KM charge of $.10/$.10 for excess kilometres if applicable. ◆The Complimentary Maintenance Program provides the services outlined in the Factory Recommended Maintenance Schedule that accompanies every Toyota vehicle for two years or 48,000 km, whichever occurs first. Service intervals must be followed per the Schedule. Some exclusions may apply. Services beyond regularly scheduled maintenance or components not included in your maintenance schedule become the responsibility of the owner. Consult your Ontario Toyota Dealership for more details. The Toyota Complimentary Maintenance Program will be offered for a limited time only on new Canadian Toyota vehicles sold between January 5 - March 1, 2010. Offer subject to change. †These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. All rights are reserved. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offers valid between January 1 and February 1, 2010 and are subject to change without notice. Please see your participating Toyota Dealer for full details.

TOYOTA grad program

McIvor and Duncan finish first

Ashleigh McIvor finished first in women's qualifying at the skicross World Cup yesterday while fellow Canadian David Duncan took top spot in the men's qualification. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Superstar aerialist prepares for last shot at Olympic gold

Eight years ago, aerialist Steve Omischl had the physical tools to reach an Olympic podium but lacked the mental toughness. Four years later, Omischl was mentally strong but a serious foot injury curtailed his quest for an Olympic title.

Steve Omischl

Now 31 and facing his final Winter Games, the native of North Bay is of sound mind and body as he takes his final crack at the gold medal that has eluded him twice before.

Omischl is a superstar in his sport, with a resumé that includes four World Cup overall championships, five Canadian titles and 20 career World Cup victories. But it's a pair of less impressive showings that stand out the most — Omischl placed 11th in his first Olympics in Salt Lake City in 2002, then slipped to 20th at the 2006 Games in Turin, Italy.

Omischl admitted he didn't know what to expect as a 23-year-old making his first Games appearance.

"I was overwhelmed at how big and flashy everything was," Omischl said.

"Instead of competing in places where nobody really cares, we have 20,000 people in the stands and there's all this media attention. As a young kid, I definitely got caught up in the expectation of it all, and I got away from remembering what got me there."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Venues get final touch-up

JEFF HODSON
Metro Canada

Organizers of the 2010 Games are hurrying hard to ensure venues look and feel like Olympic sites and that issues — including humidity from the coats of sopping wet spectators — don't affect athletes' performances.

JEFF HODSON/METRO CANADA

An icemaker sprays water on the long-track speedskating track at the Richmond Olympic Oval.

Jan Damnavits, VANOC's director of city venues, said the Richmond Olympic Oval and the Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Centre, home of long-track speedskating and curling, respectively, are in a three-to-four-week "fit out" stage of preparation.

Tents and fences are being put up and security perimeters are being established. The bright green and blue Vancouver 2010 graphics are being plastered on fences and buildings.

"We're on plan," Damnavits said yesterday during a tour of the two venues.

"The Games are coming on the 12th and the venues have to open. It's not an option to wait until the 13th."

The Richmond Olympic Oval, which will hold 7,600 spectators, will have 57 temporary tents, 23 trailers and 75 portable toilets.

More than 30 kilometres of cable is being installed for broadcast lighting.

Large white tents were also used to create a double-door to keep humidity in the Oval low.

Mark Messer, the Oval's ice expert, said the ice-making process began about a week ago with the cleaning of the building and the gradual cooling of the concrete slab.

The Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Centre, which will hold 5,600 spectators and will be the largest curling venue in the history of the Games, will use 26 tents to form a covered concourse for spectators.

"The outside environment can have a very positive or negative impact on the field of play," said Neil Houston, manager of curling during the Games.

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ACAD president to step down
Alberta College of Art and Design president Lance Carlson announced his resignation last Wednesday after serving as the head of the institution for six years. His surprise resignation comes into effect June 30. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Two professors among Haiti deaths

According to the Montreal Gazette, two Quebec professors are among the casualties of last week's earthquake in Haiti. Denis Bellavance, a Cégep de Drummondville computer science professor, was lecturing at a university in Port-au-Prince when the earthquake hit. Georges Anglade, a retired geography professor who helped set up the Université du Québec à Montréal, and his wife died in the quake when the house they were in collapsed on top of them. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Keeping you healthy at school

Working at School

Every Wednesday of January, Metro's Workology section will be featuring a variety of careers that you may not have thought of; jobs in which you stay in college or university after graduating. There are many jobs that make post-secondary institutions hum, here's but a few:

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

The health service you receive while in university or college can be some of the best in the city you're in, depending on your institution.

Enrolling in a university gives students access to a range of fitness and health experts the likes of which they'll never see again, with staff on hand to get you into shape and to deal with injuries if it goes badly.

Susan Yurincich, fitness centre manager at Brock University, points to the school's qualified instructors in spin class, kick boxing, ball workouts, aqua fitness, dance, fencing and Japanese swordsmanship.

"You also get a free orientation with a personal trainer," she says. "(Students) get their own fitness program created for them."

Brock, which has campuses in St. Catharine's and Hamilton, both in Ontario, has hundreds of varsity and intramural teams in sports such as soccer, volley ball, hockey, underwater hockey and dodge ball.

"Just having a Brock student card, they automatically get the use of our indoor track, all the gyms, our studios, the whirlpool, the pool, squash courts and outdoor tennis courts," Yurincich says. Most other post-secondary institutions work this way as well.

Joe Kenny, head of Brock's Athletic Therapy Clinic, oversees a staff including three full-time athletic therapists, three sports medicine doctors and an orthopedic surgeon to deal with any sports-related injuries, be they varsity or intramural.

University is a great time to get sick, too. In Halifax, nurse manager Jane Collins sees 60 to 70 students a day at Saint Mary's University's Student Health Centre. Complaints range from bad backs to sexually transmitted infections to mental-health issues.

"We have the best health service in the city," Collins says, with a team of practitioners led by five doctors swiftly tending to sick students. "If anybody comes by who has a sore throat or something urgent like a bladder infection, we always fit them in."

The centre does blood work onsite, saving students a trip to the hospital. It can also do minor surgeries like wart removal. The costs are included in the student health plan. That's great news for international students, who otherwise would face a hefty bill and a long wait with a trip to the emergency room.

The centre closes on the weekends, but it's not unusual for Collins to get a call on her cellphone from a student who needs the morning-after pill. She always makes sure they get what they need.

For mental health, they have psychiatrists and student counsellors to whom they refer students and psychologists are covered under the health plan. "We're very aware of mental health. This is the age of early psychosis," she explains. "If somebody comes in who's obviously in a psychotic episode, we send them to the early psychosis program or the psych nurse at the local hospital."

The centre also provides information on sexuality and sexual health, including daily tests for STIs.

"There's all kinds of pamphlets and educational material," Collins says.

"We have the best health service in the city."
Nurse manager Jane Collins of St. Mary's University

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Construction launched for NBCC campus in Fredericton

Construction has started on the new Fredericton campus of the New Brunswick Community College. To be located at the University of New Brunswick, the $15 million facility will accommodate programs in health, business administration and information technology, among other things. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology in brief

ARCTIC RESEARCH HINDERED

Writing in the latest issue of the journal Nature, University of Alberta earth scientist John England states that a lack of coordination in Arctic research funding in Canada is leaving researchers without the support needed for fieldwork. England points out that funding for travel and support from the Polar Continental Shelf Program is not distributed in partnership with money from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. "So researchers with grant money in their pockets, and government affirmation that their research is important, often can't afford to pay for their fieldwork." METRO NEW SERVICES

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Sometimes it pays to be bold

Dragons' Den

Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."
–GOETHE, GERMAN NOVELIST AND POET

I went looking for a quote about being bold — because boldness is what stands out to me about tonight's edition of Dragons' Den.

One of the Dragons makes a sudden and dramatic move, offering an investment before the other dragons have finished asking all their questions of the entrepreneur in front of them. If you watch the program regularly, you know that these business moguls typically like to have a lot of information before putting any of their own money on the line.

But tonight, the sole female Dragon, Arlene Dickinson doesn't hesitate. "I'm going to make you a deal," she says to two pitchers from Ontario, mere minutes into the presentation.

Kevin is shocked. "Arlene, you spoke way too soon."

"There's a reason it's called women's intuition and not men's intuition," retorts Arlene. "I think this is exactly the kind of idea I want."

Needless to say, Arlene's bold step changes the dynamics of the pitch completely. How fascinating it is to watch these multi-millionaires jostle for position!

Her move made me think about how in our working lives, it is sometimes critical to move decisively, and with confidence.

In my role as a news anchor at CBC News, I see how the programming chiefs have to make big decisions almost instantaneously, for example, to go into "special mode" for coverage of the Haiti earthquake. Hundreds of news staff across the country have to change whatever they're doing, on the spot, to undertake new activities.

But not only leaders have a chance to be bold. Anyone in an organization may realize there's a better way to do things, and make a suggestion that could improve the efficiency or productivity of a workplace. It's so easy to do nothing. But to step forward with some creative thoughts, you need to be bold.

It's the same with new career opportunities. The people who allow uncertainty or a lack of confidence to hold them back often get left in the dust, while someone who may not be any better qualified steps into an exciting new role — simply because they are more confident.

Boldness may not always have genius, power and magic in it — but passivity never does.

Dianne Buckner is the host of Dragons' Den and the weekend anchor on the CBC News Network. Watch Dragons' Den at 8 p.m. tonight on CBC.

CBC PHOTO

Arlene Dickinson decided to follow her woman's intuition on tonight's Dragons' Den on CBC Television.

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Applications on the rise
The number of high school applicants to provincial universities rose 2.7 per cent to 86,542 from 84,300 last year, according to figures released by the Council of Ontario Universities. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Profiles Of Success

Grads move on to exciting roles

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Exciting careers can start close to home and to prove it, Metro tracked down some of Canada's most successful graduates doing careers they love.

Jon Cassar, Algonquin College

Emmy-award winning director and executive producer Jon Cassar is perhaps best known for directing and producing the first seven seasons of the hit television show 24. He received an Emmy Award for his directing work on 24 in 2006 and says his career has really been the stuff of dreams.

"My life has been very much like the TV shows and films that I make — it's been like a dream that essentially came true," Cassar said.

Cassar, 52, graduated from Algonquin's Radio and TV Broadcasting program in 1983 and says his experiences at the school have stayed with him all his life.

"Some of the teachers are still the same ones as when I was there, and many people that are still in the business are some of the very best friends that graduated with me," he said.

Kristel Guthrie, University of Toronto

A graduate of U of T's Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, 28-year-old Kristel Guthrie created IMAGINE, Toronto's first student-run medical clinic to provide health care to homeless and lower-income patients in need. The clinic features students from a variety of medical programs providing holistic health care under the supervision of professional physicians. Guthrie, who loves giving back to the community, also works for COTA Health, which provides health care for adults with mental illnesses.

HANNES MAGERSTAEDT/GETTY IMAGES

From left: 24 stars Annie Wersching, Kiefer Sutherland and Carlos Bernard pose with director/producer Jon Cassar during a photo call to promote the hit television series.

"The idea of giving health care access to marginalized populations is a big part of why I became a nurse in the first place," Guthrie said.

Robert J. Sawyer, Ryerson University

Sci-fi author and futurist Robert J. Sawyer is the only Canadian — and one of only seven writers in history — to win all three of the world's top prizes for best Science Fiction novel of the year. A graduate of Ryerson's Radio and Television Arts program in 1982, Sawyer, 49, says that while he never planned to be an on-camera personality, he took the storytelling skills he learned in the program to heart.

"Even though I didn't want to be on-air, I was very interested in the art of storytelling," he said. "I learned how one structures a story. The lesson is that any education is useful because the skills are often adaptable to any arena."

Elliott Chun, Humber College

Just five years since graduating from Humber's Public Relations Post Graduate Certificate program, 29-year-old Elliott Chun heads up public relations for Canada's largest electronics retailer, Future Shop. As communications manager, Chun manages PR for 144 stores, blogs about new gadgets from trade shows, and checks over every press release before it goes out. A true gadget guy, he relishes the excitement of his career.

"I have a love of technology and gadgets and now having the opportunity to be immersed in my work is awesome. There's never a dull moment," Chun said.

Matthew Bamsey, Carleton University

Starships and spacewalks are Matthew Bamsey's thing, so it was only natural for the 29-year-old to seek out work at the Canadian Space Agency. After graduating from Carleton's Aerospace Engineering program in 2004, he was selected by the CSA for it's National Astronaut Recruitment Campaign. He made the finals; while he didn't get chosen for the program, he now works for the CSA as a researcher, working to make longer trips — such as an outing to Mars — possible with advances in food, air and water transportation.

"We're lucky here in Canada to have such a great program and such exciting projects that are going to push our science and technology further," he said.

Profiles of HERZING COLLEGE

Steve Whiting *Herzing College Graphic Design Graduate. Flash/Graphic Designer: Lampo Communications. Hired During the Internship*

I chose Herzing College because of the hands on training and equipment. I already had a sense of design, but it's the application of that sense that employers look for and the only logical way of accomplishing this is picking the right form of education. For graphic design Herzing is the answer.

I chose graphic design for print and web. I have always had a passion for art and communication, and graphic design is recognized the world over no matter a person's background or culture.

What I liked most about the program was the professionalism and knowledge of the instructors. Since they worked in the field the knowledge they have acquired is passed on to the students. I also liked the quality of the equipment and the curriculum.

Students taking the 1 year Herzing Graphic Design program that successfully challenge the certification exams in Photoshop, Dreamweaver and Flash are awarded the official designation of Adobe Certified Associate.

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Or visit www.herzing.edu *for more information.*

Profiles of Medix School

Gopika Menon *Medix School Student, Social Services Worker Diploma Program*

Gopika Menon came to Canada from India in 1997 where she earned a Masters Degree in Forensic Sciences, and began working towards achieving her PhD in cancer genetics. Currently she is a student in the Social Services Worker Diploma Program at Medix School.

She discovered that she had a "passion" for social work when she started volunteering at a preschool recreational program for the City of Toronto. She very quickly became the Program Co-ordinator and this facilitated a closer interaction with the Social Work Profession. Her goal is to work as a professional with individuals diagnosed with autism. She believes that her passion and academic excellence, combined with the "hands-on training" that she will gain through the externship component of the program offered at Medix School will enable her to make her dreams a reality. She now is volunteering with Community Living Mississauga, an organization that provides support to individuals who have an intellectual disability.

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Please call or visit www.medixschool.ca *for more information.*

Ottawa, Manitoba invest $7 million in uWinnipeg's CREATE project
The federal and Manitoba governments are investing a total of $7 million towards 34 research and teaching labs as part of the new UWin CREATE — the University of Winnipeg Commercialization Research and Education Alliance for Science, Technology and the Environment. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Responsibilities can change on a dime

WorkplaceLaw

"Employers often assume incorrectly that they can change an employee's job as they see fit. Just as often, employees wrongly assume that their jobs cannot be changed without their consent."

This is the cautionary tale of an employee who incorrectly assumed their employers had no right to change the terms of their jobs.

Experiencing an enrolment crisis, Acadia University decided that it had no other choice but to remove oversight of enrolment and admissions from Paula Cook Mackinnon's job. Mackinnon, who had been employed by the university in a senior role for 19 years, disagreed.

Believing that the university could not remove an important aspect of her job without advance notice or consultation with her, Mackinnon penned a letter to the president stating that she viewed the changes as significant and tantamount to a demotion. She gave the university a few days to consider her concerns and provide a response.

When the university did not respond to Mackinnon's letter before her deadline, she shut off her BlackBerry, cleaned out her personal items from her office and swiftly left the premises, never to return.

The law of constructive dismissal provides that an employee can treat fundamental changes to her job as effectively amounting to a termination. And in Canadian workplace law, when you are terminated without a good reason, you are entitled to severance.

Justice Gregory Warner, who wrote the recent decision, correctly noted that the issue was not whether Mackinnon had "quit" her job, but whether she had a good enough reason to leave. However, it could not be said that Mackinnon's job was substantially different following the changes, as enrolment amounted to less than one quarter of her job. The university was entitled to reasonable leeway with changing business needs.

Similarly, in another recent case, Bank of Nova Scotia executive David Chapman resigned, claiming a reduction in his salary and the bank's failure to honour a promise amounted to his termination. Although Chapman's salary was reduced by 13 per cent, it was only the variable component of his pay, such as stock options, shares and bonuses that changed, not his base salary. Agreeing with the bank and dismissing Chapman's case, the court found that Chapman's pay could be reduced because he was always part of a variable compensation model and had remained in the applicable range for his position.

Employers often assume incorrectly that they can change an employee's job as they see fit. Just as often, employees wrongly assume that their jobs cannot be changed without their consent. As similar facts don't always lead to the same results, especially in workplace law, my advice is to consider a mutual resolution instead of always marching to court.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

Walking away from a job isn't always the right course of action.

Profiles of COMPLECTIONS International Academy of Make-up Artistry

Sabrina Rinaldi

Sabrina Rinaldi had quite a busy Fashion Week last Fall as part of the Creative team for designer Nada Sheppard. The Complections graduate created the stunning runway looks for the Spring/Summer 2010 show, as well as the hair and make-up designs for NADA's recent advertising campaigns. Her work was recently featured on the cover of LouLou magazine on singer Kate Voegele, and she has worked with musicians like Feist, Emily Haines, and Hedley. Sabrina studied both fashion make-up and hairstyling at Complections – "I did my research and found Complections to be the best and most reputable school," she says. "I found the teachers to be great and very knowledgeable." After graduating, Sabrina joined Judy INC, an artist agency with offices in Toronto and Vancouver, and has worked on jobs for magazines like FASHION, Harper's Bazaar Thailand and Glow; her advertising clients include The Hudson's Bay Company, Joe Fresh and Nike.

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Profiles of Everest COLLEGE BUSINESS • TECHNOLOGY • HEALTH CARE

Beau Jardeleza Diploma in Network & Security Specialist Program, Graduated 2004

I went to university for studying medicine. I didn't feel that it was what I wanted to do in my life. I decided to go to Everest College to find a career that I wanted. They opened up doors of opportunity for me. The atmosphere was great. The people were great. They teach it in a way that you understand it within a year versus four. They had great professors that had real world experience that gave them the tools and the knowledge to allow students to learn what we needed to set us off into the right career path. They actually help you find a job and hold your hand through the whole ride. I was able to get the career that I wanted. I'm happy and the job that I have now is great. If I were to do it again I would definitely choose Everest again.

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Profiles of Trillium College

Carlos R

Carlos came to Trillium College in 2008 after working several years in retail. He always enjoyed working with people, and was a person who his friends and family went too when life had it's challenges. He met with one of the Trillium Colleges Registrars and they determined that a career in Community and Social Services was the best fit. He enrolled in the 45 week College Diploma program and graduated later that year, with honours. He did his 8 week placement at a Mental Health facility and did well, and they offered him a full time position after he finished his placement. He has worked there for a year now and enjoy working with

Lisa B

Lisa enrolled in the Medical Office Administration program in 2009. She always worked in customer service and was hoping to find a career with more regular work and hours. She graduated with her Diploma in Medical Office Administration with honours. She obtained a career with a Chiropractic Office in her community. It is a small family business and she is very happy. "Trillium College gave me the skills and confidence to re-enter the professional workforce...the instructors were so supportive and knowledgeable" says Lisa.

Tina K

Tina came to Trillium College in 2009 to pursue her dream of working in a Dental Office as an Intra Oral Dental Assistant. She toured the school and liked the small classes and thought that would be best for her, as she had been out of school for several years. She had a young family and the regular schedule and taking one module at a time with regular evaluation, suited her best. "...I also appreciated the fact that I had my diploma in 50 weeks..." says Tina.
Tina was employed by a Dental Office near her home and has a flexible schedule that fits her family needs. She enjoys her work, and feels like she is helping her community.

Karla T

Karla always enjoyed working with numbers and decided that she was best suited to Accounting and Payroll. She enrolled in the Accounting and Payroll diploma program at Trillium College in 2008. She appreciated the small classes and individual instruction. She was hired by a small firm right after graduation and has since leveraged that experience and education to a Accounts Payable position with a larger company. Karla says "... the instructors went thru the Accounting and Microsoft programs and explained how we would be using them in the office environment....also learned the skills to go into business for ourselves...."

Trillium College is a registered Private Career College that has 8 campuses across Ontario (Ottawa, Oshawa, Kingston, Peterborough, Richmond Hill, Toronto, Burlington and St. Catharines) offering College Diploma courses in Health, Business and Social disciplines. Call us at 888 982 0575 for more information about our classes and to book a tour at any of our campuses.

www.trilliumcollege.ca

Residual Value winners announced

The 2010 Canadian Residual Value Award winners have been announced by ALG, which publishes the Automotive Lease Guide for residual values and depreciation. The top place among mainstream brands was taken by Subaru while Infiniti took the highest honours among luxury brands. **CANADIANDRIVER.COM**

Metro Drive

Scion has arrived

The Scion brand has officially come to the Canadian market, with the full lineup making its debut at the Montreal International Auto Show last week through three highly customized, urban-aware models. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

GMC Terrain: Rugged beauty

PETER BLEAKNEY
for Metro Canada

The 2010 GMC Terrain swaggers into the cute-ute arena with bulging fenders, chunky stance and a don't-mess-with-me front grill.

Yes, GMC's take on the freshly-minted Chevrolet Equinox looks like it might eat your kids, but the ruggedly handsome Terrain is really more Rosedale than Rubicon, Which is a good thing. For its intended mission as a compact CUV to go up against such stalwarts as the Honda CR-V, Ford Escape and Toyota RAV4, this little Jimmy makes a pretty strong case.

The Ingersoll, Ont.-built Terrain starts at $27,465 for the base front-drive SLE-1 model with a 182 hp 2.4L four-cylinder. My tester was the top trim SLT-2 front-drive four-cylinder variant with a base price of $34,400. All wheel drive adds $1355 to the upper trim levels (SLT-1 and SLT-2) or $1610 to the lower (SLE-1 and SLE-2). A 264 hp 3.0L V6 is available for $2050 in the three upper trim levels.

Like its bigger brother, the Lambda-platform GMC Acadia, the Terrain benefits from some fine dynamic tuning. The ride is compliant and refined, yet it also shows commendable poise on the B-road stuff. The variable assist rack-and-pinion steering feels good too.

On the highway, the Terrain SLT-2 makes for a relaxed tourer. The eight-way power driver's seat with power lumbar is first-rate (the passenger makes do with two-way manual) and there's surprisingly little wind or engine noise. Perusing the spec sheet reveals standard active noise cancellation in the four-cylinder models.

The cabin design echoes the exterior with angular architecture featuring high quality materials and enough visual bling to keep things interesting. There's plenty of well thought out storage, including a closed compartment under the centre armrest large enough for a laptop computer, and two-tier storage in the doors.

Base Terrains come standard with 17-inch alloy wheels, OnStar, Driver Information Centre, auto-dim rearview mirror with back up camera display, block heater and Stabilitrak stability control.

The upper three trim levels get Bluetooth connectivity with voice recognition, premium Pioneer sound with subwoofer and XM radio. Key SLT-2 features include leather, exterior chrome trim, sunroof, programmable powered lift gate, and rear park assist.

On the plus side, it's a smooth unit and returns the best fuel economy in this segment — 9.2L/100 km city and 6.1L/100 km highway on regular fuel.

The Terrain has one of the longest wheelbases in its class, which translates to generous rear legroom. The three-position reclining rear seats slide 20 cm, although cargo capacity falls shy of the CR-V and RAV4.

General Motors is positioning the GMC Terrain a rung above the Chevy Equinox. As we're seeing with many new GM vehicles, this well-sorted little tyke comes across as very grown up indeed.

The 2010 GMC Terrain combines a powerful, handsome look with refined ride and utility.

2010 GMC Terrain

Type: Crossover utility vehicle
Price: from $27,465
Engine: 2.4L four-cylinder/3.0L V6
HP: 182/264

Highlights

- High-quality interior with plenty of storage
- Refined ride

iTunes tagging in Fords

NEW TECHNOLOGY iTunes Tagging and HD radio technology are the latest features on Ford's growing list of factory-installed customer conveniences and technologies that will be newly available in 2010.

These vehicles will offer familiar terrestrial radio, HD radio technology, SIRIUS Satellite Radio as well as Internet radio through Ford SYNC from a Bluetooth-streaming audio-capable smartphone.

The world's first implementation of iTunes Tagging in a factory-installed HD radio receiver will also be available.

Through the SYNC system, iTunes Tagging will provide Ford customers with the ability to capture a song they hear on the HD radio receiver for later purchase.

With a simple push of the "Tag" button on the radio display, the song information will be stored in the radio's memory.

Up to 100 tags can be stored on SYNC until the iPod is connected to receive the download of metadata.

When the iPod is then synced to iTunes, a playlist of "tagged" songs will appear.

Customers then can preview and, if desired, purchase and download tagged songs from the iTunes Store.

FROM CARGUIDE

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HONDA

#Limited time lease offers based on new 2010 Honda models. Lease examples based on new 2010 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1E2AEX / 2010 Accord LX Sedan, model CP2E3AE / 2010 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3H3AEY available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. £3.9% / 3.9% / 3.9% lease APR for 48 / 48 / 48 months. Monthly payment is $148 / $248 / $268. Down payment or equivalent trade of $4,225 / $5,887 / $5,734 (includes freight and PDI, A/C tax, and environmental and OMVIC fees), first monthly payment and $0 / $0 / $0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $12,936.77 / $20,238.83 / $21,150.74. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. 96,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. †Limited time financing offers based on new 2010 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2010 Civic DX Sedan, model FA1E2AEX available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. ‡MSRP is $17,520 (includes $1,530 freight and PDI, A/C tax, and environmental and OMVIC fees) financed at 1.9% APR equals $501.05 per month for 36 months. Cost of borrowing is $517.91 for a total obligation of $18,037.91. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. #/£/†Offers valid from January 5th, 2010 through February 1st, 2010 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. See your Honda retailer for full details. *As reported by Canadian manufacturers for calendar year 2009.

Bugatti bills through the roof

The outrageously expensive Bugatti Veyron may just also be the most pricey to maintain. Many owners say yearly running costs hover around $300,000, according to Autocar. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Who's afraid of Tata Nano?

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

CARLOS OSORIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Warren Harris, Tata Technologies president and COO, unveils the Tata Nano at the Detroit Science Center last week. Tata is mulling over plans to launch the world's cheapest car in North America.

Tata Nano fever has spread to North America. If you're one of the inflicted we can only offer condolences. Because there is no vaccine, and only faint hope that this intriguing car will ever enter our midst.

Nano was initially developed for its home market of India, where the base vehicle sells for about 100,000 rupees — roughly $2,250 Cdn.

But the concept of a simple, small, no frills, inexpensive, ultra fuel-efficient device is compelling to people all over the globe, particularly these days, when there is a heightened emphasis on efficient mobility, and a scary economy.

Nano freaks here first perked up their ears when Tata went on record saying the company recognizes there is definitely a market for Nano in developed countries. It subsequently unveiled a European version at this year's Geneva auto show, with a planned launch in 2011.

And during auto show week in Detroit this month, an example of this European Nano was proudly on display at the Detroit Science Center. Some took this as a sign that Nanos would be soon be consorting on our streets and highways.

Tata is apparently mulling things over, but the odds are certainly stacked against its entry into our markets.

For starters, to meet our safety standards and performance and convenience expectations, the Nano would have to be heavier and more powerful (than 35 hp), and that means less fuel efficiency and a higher sticker price, factors that would quickly dilute the purity of its current compelling formula. We also have a terrible track record when it comes to the long-term acceptance of small, basic, inexpensive cars from far-flung lands.

Remember how we treated Skoda? Lada? Dacia? First we say, "Yeah, sure, come on over for coffee." Then soon after, "Who invited you?" Small cars like Nano are also famous for having small profit margins. To make money on Nano, Tata will need to sell quite a lot of them. But Tata has very limited capacity at present and lots of debt, and here in North America its initial customers might only be the "hipsters" — those who chose products primarily for their ironic cache.

And if there turns out to be a healthy market here for Nano and its ilk in the future, who is say it couldn't be fulfilled by Toyota, Honda or Ford? If Toyota can build a $375,000 Lexus LFA supercar and compete in F1, I'm pretty sure they can cobble together a Nano slayer.

Finally, Mr. Tata noted he got inspired to create and build the Nano, after seeing entire families of six or seven riding together on little scooters.

For those Indian families, a Tata Nano is obviously a safer and more practical alternative. But six or seven on a scooter is not a phenomenon you just see a lot of in this country, whether on Yonge Street in Toronto or on Highway 12 in Saskatchewan.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

Volt app puts car at your fingertips

TECHNOLOGY Chevrolet and OnStar have unveiled the auto industry's first working smartphone application that will allow Chevrolet Volt owners 24/7 connection and control of vehicle functions and OnStar features remotely.

OnStar's Mobile Application allows drivers to communicate with their Volt from Droid by Motorola, Apple iPhone and Blackberry Storm smartphones.

It uses a real-time data connection to perform tasks from setting the charge time to unlocking the doors. The application:

- displays charge status — plugged in or not, and voltage (120V or 240V)
- sends text or email notifications for charge reminders, interruptions and full charge
- displays miles per gallon, electric only miles, and odometer readings
- remotely start the vehicle to pre-condition the interior temperature

OnStar's real-time data connection also helps drivers maximize the environmental benefits of owning a Volt. FROM CARGUIDE

In vehicle safety, your tires come first

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

The most important safety feature on your vehicle is your tires. Only when they lose their grip do your anti-lock brakes, stability control and airbags start doing their job to protect you.

Having too little air in your tires increases their rolling resistance, so you waste fuel. Too much air, and the tires wear unevenly and ride harshly. For best performance, check your tire pressure once a month.

You can buy a gauge in the auto section of any major stores. Inexpensive ones are fine, and it doesn't matter if you get the "stick" type, or one with a dial. To find the recommended pressure, check the owner's manual or the placard inside the door jamb.

Check when the car's been sitting for a few hours, or driven no more than two kilometres. Unscrew the little cap on the valve, and then press the gauge firmly onto the stem. It takes a bit of practice, and you'll probably let out some of the air before you get the hang of it. Then read the number on the gauge.

If it's too low, add some air, pressing the air hose onto the valve the same way as when you checked it. If it's too high, press on the little pin inside the tire valve with the tip of the gauge to release air. Screw the cap back on and check the others, including the spare.

Even if your car has a tire pressure monitoring system, you should still check. The warning lights only come on when the tire is down by 25 per cent; you could still be wasting fuel even though your car hasn't warned you.

Worn tread is dangerous: the tire loses its grip, especially on slippery roads. Look for "wear bars," which are little rubber bars that run across the tread.

On a new tire, they're deep inside and can be hard to find, but if they're visible close to the top of the tread, the tire needs replacement.

If you can see your tire's "wear bars"— little rubber bars that run across the tread — it's probably time to replace that tire.

You can also use a penny to check. Tuck it into the tread with the top of the Queen's head facing down. If you can see any part of her head above her eyes, your tires are worn enough to compromise handling. If you can see her crown, they're unsafe.

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GS Model Shown

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Man hands over Audi R8 to strangers
According to New Zealand's Independent Online, an unknown businessman has given the keys to his Audi R8 to a pair of men he had never met before. The generous man's only request was that the two men use the German luxury vehicle to help others without wanting anything in return. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hopping around town

Jessica Jensen recently bought a 2009 Volkswagen Rabbit Sport Edition similar to this model.

Jessica Jensen is quickly making a name for herself in the fashion world. The Toronto handbag designer, who's been hailed by some in the industry as Canada's handbag queen, has, over the past two years, garnered a devoted following of fashionistas flocking to buy her beautifully crafted bags. From totes to clutches, all of her creations are lined with Jensen's signature blush pink suede.

But running her eponymous fashion company means Jensen spends a lot of time on the road.

"I drive down to New York City to see my showroom and suppliers and the factory," she says, adding that she also frequently makes the road trip to her Buffalo warehouse to pick up supplies.

And it's her brand new 2009 Volkswagen Rabbit Sport Edition that gets her everywhere. "We just got it a few months ago and I've already put 15,000 km on. We just love it," she says of her black car. Jensen credits her car's back seats, which fold down, with providing her tons of room to pack inventory.

Jensen, who lives in the heart of Toronto with her husband, photographer Joshua Jensen-Nagle, was also looking for a vehicle that was city-oriented. "I really wanted something that was small and compact, but still has good looks and quality," she says. The final choice came down to picking a Golf or a Rabbit.

"The Rabbit had a little bit more luxe to it, so I scooped that up pretty quickly," she quips.

When it comes to her driving, Jensen admits: "I've always had a bit of a lead foot."

But then, we're talking about someone who doesn't let the grass grow under her feet. Jensen is already planning the expansion of her business. Over the next few years, she plans to introduce a full line of ready-to-wear as well as footwear, home goods and jewelry.

And in the car department, she reveals she has her sights set on one day owning a Mini.

"I would love a cream Mini Cooper convertible," she says. "I love Minis and I love the colour cream, so I have an affinity for both."

Considering how well business is doing for Jensen, it won't be long before she's scooting around Toronto in her dream car.

Heather Buchan is a Toronto-based journalist who has worked at Homemakers, Canadian Living, Canadian House & Home and, most recently, Hello! Canada, where she cut her teeth in the world of celebrities.

Toronto-based fashion desginer Jessica Jensen is being hailed by people in the industry as Canada's handbag queen.

Shell targets gunk with nitrogen

Shell's nitrogen-enhanced gasoline fights against the accumulation of engine gunk by ensuring proper blending of additives.

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

Driving Force

The engine in your vehicle is called an internal combustion engine because gasoline burns inside it to provide power to the wheels.

Still, while gasoline is essential to the process, it can also cause problems: The carbon from combustion can build up on vital engine parts and reduce efficiency.

Gasoline companies blend in cleaning additives to reduce this, including Shell and its nitrogen-enriched fuels.

While it may sound like more of a performance additive, the gaseous nitrogen is part of a "package" of cleaning additives.

Its role is to improve solubility and so keep the additives properly blended. Since you can't shake your vehicle's tank to mix the cleaning additives with the fuel, the nitrogen is there to keep them suspended and prevent them from settling.

"Our V-Power has five times the amount of additives required for premium gasoline," says Shell's fuels project engineer Bobby Bowden. "The additive is in all three grades; the proportion is what's different."

Engines produce power when a mixture of gasoline and air is compressed, and then combusted with a spark plug. The fuel/air mixture gets into the engine's combustion chamber, and the resulting exhaust gets out, when metal valves open and close.

Carbon has a tendency to stick to these hot valves, and worse, that initial carbon build-up becomes a magnet for more. Add liquid from condensation, and it becomes a sticky, tar-like substance commonly known as engine gunk.

"With (gunk) created in 8,000 kilometres, you can clean it with three to five tanks of V-Power."
Shell's Bobby Bowden

Running a good-quality fuel with cleaning additives will prevent deposits in the first place, and if the engine isn't too far gone, can clean them off.

"We've proven that with (gunk) created in 8,000 kilometres, you can clean it with three to five tanks of V-Power," Bowden says.

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Shelby to be honoured at auto show

Automotive legend Carroll Shelby will be honoured at a gala reception at the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto in February, where he will be inducted into the Canadian Motorsports Hall of Fame. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lancer keeps things simple

Mitsubishi compact scores high on reliability, fun

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada

MODEL: 2003 to 2006 Mitsubishi Lancer
VEHICLE TYPE: Compact sedan / wagon
APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE: $6,000 to $11,000

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION: The Lancer is Mitsubishi's entry-level product in the Canadian marketplace. Though a smaller dealer network keeps it from achieving the popularity of cars like Civic and Corolla, the Lancer has earned an enthusiastic following of loyal owners nonetheless.

The current Lancer generation replaced the former after 2006 — meaning there's plenty of selection in the used car market for a last-gen unit. Said last-gen Lancer is a simple, focused, sporty and fun-to-drive compact that was available in both sedan and wagon variants.

Available equipment included a sunroof, heated seats, a CD-changer audio system with subwoofer, and anti-lock brakes.

Look for one of two engines, an automatic or manual transmission and a variety of trim levels and options packages. Of course, shoppers can also look for some remaining portion of Mitsubishi's popular 160,000 kilometer powertrain warranty, too.

The Lancer ES is the entry-level model, which got all of the basics and a set of 14-inch wheels. Power came from a 2.0 litre, 120 horsepower four-cylinder engine with a five-speed stick or four-speed automatic.

Second Gear

The Lancer O-Z Rally stepped things up with some unique wheels, styling and interior upgrades — though it used the same engine as the ES.

Enthusiast shoppers can shop out a Lancer Ralliart for even further upgrades. Key among these is the larger 2.4 litre, 162 horsepower engine with variable valve timing. If 'fun to drive' is a priority for you, the Lancer Ralliart is the model you're after.

WHAT OWNERS LIKE: Visibility, fuel economy, sporty driving manners and uniqueness are among the Lancer's most highly regarded traits. It's not the most popular car in its segment, though many owners enjoy its uniqueness, too.

WHAT OWNERS HATE: Owner complaints are fairly few and minor. Owners typically recognize that the Lancer is far from a supermodel amongst its peers, and some owners take issue with some of the 'old-school' controls inside the cabin.

COMMON ISSUES: On a test-drive, pay close attention to the shift quality of a model with the optional automatic gearbox. Shuddering and vibration may be apparent, though it's typically remedied with a fluid change.

On a model with a manual transmission, you'll want to ensure the clutch isn't at the end of its life. Question any "grinding"when shifting, especially between the first three gears. Sportier Lancer models may have been driven harder than others, so remember to check tire and brake condition on a test drive, or get help from a mechanic.

Finally, be weary of performance upgrades. Air intake and exhaust modifications are typically safe, though improperly-installed upgrades may pose a safety or reliability issue.

Dazed And Confused

Most Drivers Lost When Looking For The Lowest Car Insurance Rates

Why Is It So Hard To Find The Best Rates?

The truth is, it isn't as difficult as it seems once you know where to look. We've all heard that it pays to shop around – and car insurance is no different. For most people, that means talking to friends, making phone calls, surfing the Internet, and speaking with several brokers and insurance companies to get competitive rates. But with over 30 insurance companies providing car insurance in Ontario, getting references and quotes from everyone takes too much time, right? Wrong. This is where an online service like InsuranceHotline.com, which provides real-time quotes from competing insurers, can help.

InsuranceHotline.com offers an independent, unbiased rate comparison from over 30 of the top insurance companies in Canada to find you the lowest rate for your profile and then connects you with a licensed broker or agent who can provide the policy. It is fast, safe and FREE.

Does It Really Pay To Shop Around?

Most consumers fail to realize that the rates charged by different insurance companies to insure the same driver, with the same car, for the same coverage, can vary by hundreds and even thousands of dollars. Take a look at the table below.

The key to finding the best rate is to figure out which insurance company has the best rate for your particular situation. And with rates varying so wildly across companies, chances are you are not with the company that has the lowest rate for your profile right now.

Don't Be Fooled By Others Offering To "Compare Quotes".

Unlike most of its competitors, InsuranceHotline.com does not sell insurance, is not a licensed broker or agent, and is not owned in whole or in part by an insurance company, agent or brokerage. This allows InsuranceHotline.com to be completely unbiased when providing insurance quotes and keeps its focus solely on finding the lowest insurance rates for consumers.

By contrast, most websites offering to "compare insurance quotes" are owned by or affiliated with insurance brokers or agents and are therefore only capable of quoting rates from the limited number of insurance companies they represent, typically no more than 4 or 5.

Start Saving Your Money Now.

InsuranceHotline.com puts you in the driver seat by making insurance companies compete for your business. With quotes from over 30 of the top insurance companies in Canada, InsuranceHotline.com is the simplest and easiest way to make sure you aren't overpaying for your car insurance. And it is completely FREE to use.

There is never any obligation. You decide if you're interested in the rate provided and whether you want to move your business. So what are you waiting for?

Rate Comparison

Driving Record	Lowest Price	Highest Price	Price Difference
Clean Record	$958	$2,213	$1,255
1 Ticket	$1,018	$2,552	$1,534
1 Accident	$1,849	$3,753	$1,904

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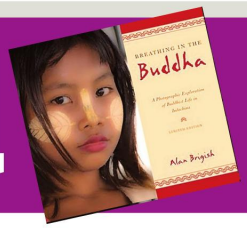
Aeroplan partners with Offsetters
Groupe Aeroplan has announced a new strategic partnership with Offsetters, a leading Canadian provider of high quality climate solutions. Offsetters creates permanent emissions reductions through carbon offsets programs. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel



Breathing in the culture

Documentary photographer Alan Brigish has just released his second limited edition coffee table book, Breathing in the Buddha: A Photographic Exploration of Buddhist Life in Indochina ($50). The book's luminous images tell two parallel stories. The first explores the daily life of Buddhist people in three cities within Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia, and then reflects the author's extensive travels throughout Burma and gives tips on where to see. The second story is the author's exploration of the Buddha's teachings and how they impact on people's lives. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

St. Lucia resort draped in romance

Valentine's Day is the perfect time of year to give that steamy spa getaway to your partner

ANNE DIMON
for Metro Canada

No surprise that more couples today are stealing away from hectic, stressful daily life to spend "time-out" side-by-side at a spa.

What better way to renew the spark and energy of a romance than with a little private "us" time for hands-on therapy. With V-Day just around the corner, hotels and resorts are ramping up the romance by bringing out the big guns: Champagne, chocolate and roses.

One newly-upgraded resort on the lush island of St. Lucia has positioned itself to dish up romance year-round. The entire concept of Rendezvous, an all-inclusive, boutique resort and spa for couples only, has, in fact, been condensed into three little words and spelled out in its URL — theromanticholiday.com. Located on Malabar Beach about three kilometres from the capital city of Castries, the 17-year-old, 100-room resort re-opened in November following a $15 million US facelift and expansion that included the addition of a spa and gym.

Semi-private island offers quiet retreat

Romance is the name of the game here. In fact, the hotel could be considered quite openly suggestive as elements of their deco get right to the point. For instance, while some boutique hotels hold the green apple as their signature item, here it's the Anthurium — a rather phallic-looking plant. Then there's Rodin's Kissing Couple.

ANNE DIMON/FOR METRO CANADA

Rendezvous resort re-opened in November following a $15 million US renovation and facelift.

Along with CD players and king-size, four poster beds, a replica of the embracing nudes statue is prominently displayed in each guest room.

An expansive open-air space encompassing bar, lounge and dining area all overlook pristine Malabar Beach. Le Rendezvous is the only hotel on this beach and the red flags you see planted in the white sugar sand does not signal dangerous waves but that another round of cocktails — or a freshly squeezed passion fruit from the juice bar — is being requested. An intimate finer dining restaurant is called Trysting Place.

It's a quiet, tranquil space — no blaring music, no loud holiday-camp type activities — nicely appointed and service-oriented. General manager Yhasmine Remy says two of the things that make Rendezvous special are "the atmosphere and the personalization of service — meeting the needs without being intrusive."

ANNE DIMON/FOR METRO CANADA

Nearly every room on the resort has a view of Malabar Beach.

A short stroll from the lobby, guests find The Water Garden Spa — a self-contained, two story building houses three, spacious and naturally lit treatment rooms and offering a good selection of services including a variety of massages, scrubs and esthetics.

Outside there's a swimming pool (the second on the property) where, before or after treatments, guests cozy up on moon-shaped, wicker settees. Nearby, the Water Garden is a man-made river winding seductively around semi-private islands with water-waiter service and beds of plants and foliage sourced from around the island to attract birds.

For the fit-minded, there's a modern, well-equipped gym and a fitness instructor offering daily classes such a yoga, Pilates and water aerobics. Golf and tennis pros are also on hand. Bicycles and helmets are available for guest use and there's at least one guided tour into the city. Skip it unless you enjoy cycling very busy city roads.

While many hotels are big on the arrival ritual — glasses of chilled champagne and other gestures of welcome — check out procedures typically comes with less fanfare.

One of the points of distinction at Le Rendezvous is its "departure lounge." Guests catching a late day flight can use Hospitality House which includes the gym, showers and change rooms.

Yasmine says one of her personal goals is to make the departure as special as the arrival. Part of that ritual is the Wishing Well — when couples leave, Remy explains they are encouraged to make a wish. "Hopefully," she says, "they wish to come back."

If you go...

- Airfare is not included in packages.
- All-inclusive resort stays are $330 per couple, per night with no minimum stays.
- At Rendezvous they won't impose activities on you, but they do offer an amazing choice of activities from tennis to golf to archery to volleyball.
- This wonderful garden paradise is perched right on St. Lucia's longest white sand beach,
- They have a state of the art water sports facility, a first class PADI Scuba Centre, two pools, a Jacuzzi and for when you are exhausted, really comfortable sun loungers for you to sink into and snooze away a few hours.

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Prepare for a frisking
Transport Canada recently authorized gate crews to pat-down all passengers and check all carry-on items before boarding. Have your bags open and ready to ensure speedy processing. METRO NEWS SERVICES

5 Must-visit resort pools

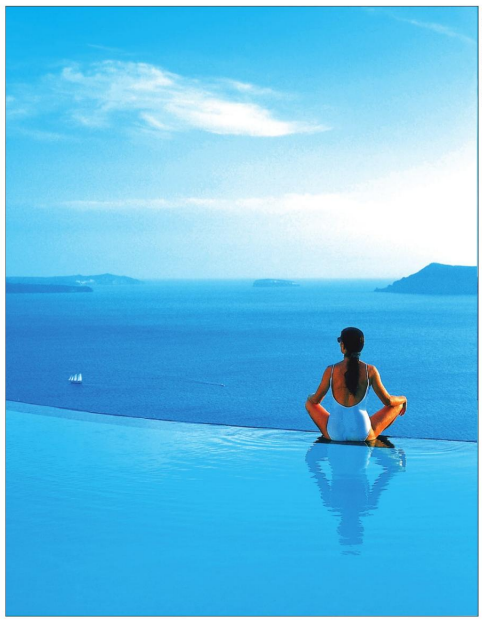
PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

Wikipedia describes a swimming pool as "an artificially enclosed body of water intended for swimming or water-based recreation."

Whoever penned those unlovely words has obviously never sipped a killer mojito in a cliffside infinity pool as the sun set over the Agean. Twenty-first century hotel pool design marries hi-tech with high art. Metro has scoured the globe to find the five best.

METRO WORLD NEWS

The Blue Lagoon in Iceland is geo-thermic and is set against a black lava backdrop.


METRO WORLD NEWS

The Intercontinental offers great views of Victoria Harbour.

5
Blue Lagoon
Icelend

If air temperatures of just above freezing coupled with geo-thermally heated seawater pools set in other-worldy black lava sounds like your bag, then this Icelandic gem is for you.

Lots of caves, and crannies, steaming waters and a distinct feeling of being on another planet. Relax and sink away into the pool. (bluelagoon.com)

4
Banyan tree
Mahé, Seychelles

A classic infinity pool overlooking Intendance Bay at Banyan Tree resort on the island of Mahé. It benefits from being surrounded by jungle-like fauna and a hotel with stunning service. (banyan tree.com)

3
Intercontinental
Hong Kong

Brilliant hotel with a trio of brilliant infinity pools which give the impression you are floating in Victoria Harbour. Each pool is heated to a different temperature but all have underwater music piped in. (Inter Continental.com)

2
Hotel du Cap
Eden-Roc, France

A-listers from JFK to Madonna have chilled here and the hotel is the setting for Scott Fitzgerald's Tender is the Night. The infinity pool is the perfect place to star watch as well as relax as you overlook the bay (hotel-du-cap-edenroc.com)

1
Perivolas
Santorini, Greece

The Perivolas infinity pool is rarely far from travel magazine covers and with good reason — it is insanely beautiful. Set on the edge of a the Santorini Caldera (a big volcanic hole now filled with the impossibly blue waters of the Agean) the views are almost surreally serene. The family-owned boutique hotel is also humblingly tasteful. An absolute must-do-before-you-die location. perivolas.gr

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Olympic-sized closures
If you're travelling to the Vancouver Olympics prepare to travel without your car. Road closures are expected to be the norm. METRO NEWS SERVICES

METRO WORLD NEWS

The view from Mumask, Russia offers unobstructed views for miles of the lights.

Turning up the lights

Metro's picks for the best view of the Northern Lights

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

To any serious traveller, the Northern Lights are simply a "must-do-before-you die" deal.

They're on the same list as trekking to Machu Pichu, or losing your shirt in Vegas as a 100 per cent travel no-brainer.

Metro's pick of the places to see them are:

Tromso, Norway
Why: The almost entire lack of daylight just makes things more surreal.
Where: Tromso Grand Nordic Hotel
Cost: $120 per night
rica-hotels.com

John o'Groats, Scotland
Why: Seclusion and scotch. The village is at the top of Britain and perfect for Highland exploration.
Where: Far North Cottage at Dunnet Head, Caithness
Cost: Seven days $300
self-catering-scotland.com/dunnethead

Murmansk, Russia
Why: Dripping in Soviet-era history and still the main naval base of Russia's Northern Fleet. Not pretty, but very iconic. It is very very cold so br prepared.
Where: Park Inn Poliarnie Zori
Cost: From $100
murmansk.parkinn.ru

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Cancun	Travel Jan 28 - Feb 4/ts	$149 + taxes & fees $272
Costa Rica	Travel Jan 25 - Feb 1/wg	$165 + taxes & fees $209
New York	Travel Mar 3 - Mar 10/ac	$199 + taxes & fees $112
Athens	Travel Apr 18 - Apr 26/ts	$499 + taxes & fees $346
Madrid	Travel May 30 - Jun 7/ts	$499 + taxes & fees $295
Hong Kong	Travel Mar 22 - Apr 5/ua	$749 + taxes & fees $169
Buenos Aires	Travel Mar 10 - Mar 24/ua	$789 + taxes & fees $262
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Johannesburg	Travel Feb 24 - Mar 10/af	$899 + taxes & fees $467

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Miami Air + 7-Day Car $339 + taxes & fees $119
Depart Feb 9/ggv.

New York City Air + 3 Nights $499
Park Central Hotel + taxes & fees $111
Departs Feb 18/ggv/ac.

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Cozumel 7 Nights 4-Star	*Hotel Cozumel*	$575 + taxes & fees $277
Departs Jan 27/swg/wg.		
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CLAUDIO GARRIDO/FOR METRO CANADA

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When to go: December through February

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Try the Wine Route of Colchagua Valley (rutadelvino.cl) or check out www.turisvino.com

When to go: all year

Skiing and kayaking in Pucon

Base yourself at the town of Pucon on Lake Villarrica for the brilliant whitewaters of the Trancura river (three out of a maximum of five for difficulty) or just raft on the lake (kayakpucon.net).

When you're done head to the slopes at the nearby Villarrica volcano. (www.skipucon.cl)

When to go: July and August

CLAUDIO GARRIDO/FOR METRO CANADA

Climbing the icy peaks is only half the fun in Patagonia.

Climbing in Patagonia

The stunning mountains of Patagonia in the south provide the material for both amateur rock hopping together with expeditions to extraordinary glacier Gray. The eight-hour trek starts at Camp Gray (Parque Nacional Torres del Paine), every day from November to February). Technical equipment — ice axes, harness, rope, etc., — is provided.

When to go: September to February

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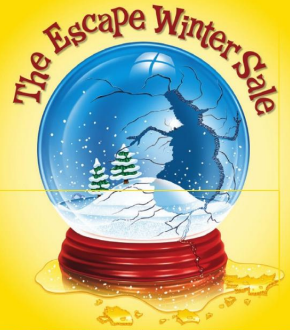

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Skip the lines, travel early
With the new flight regulations in place delays are occurring like never before. Try flying out early as those flights usually experience fewer delays than later ones. You'll face shorter security lines and less car traffic to the airport if you can do an early start. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

JOHN AND SANDRA NOWLAN/FOR METRO CANADA

The Harry Potter exhibit is expected to be one of the world's biggest movie themed parks when it opens.

Potter ride set for a take-off

JOHN AND SANDRA NOWLAN
for Metro Canada

Muggles take note. Harry Potter, Hogsmeade Station, Hogwarts School and even butterbeer are coming to Universal Orlando this spring.

The Wizarding World of Harry Potter, reputed to cost upwards of $200 million, is in its final construction stages at the Islands of Adventure theme park.

The J.K. Rowling novels and hit movies are being transformed on a 20-acre site into what producer Paul Daurio said will be "an experience unlike ay other." The veteran of 20 years of magic making with Disney and Universal is responsible for staying true to Rowling's vision while giving visitors an authentic taste of life as a wizard.

"This challenge is similar to the one I had working with Steven Spielberg on Jurassic Park at Universal Hollywood," he told us while overlooking the scaffolding covering Hogwarts Castle. "The complex storytelling requires that we push every technology available. We're determined to do things here that have never been done before."

The Wizarding World site is being carved out of an area of Island of Adventure surrounded by a Spiderman 3-D simulator ride, the Incredible Hulk Coaster and Dr. Seuss land for smaller kids. But the Harry Potter exhibit is bound to be the major attraction when it opens.

Where to stay, eat

- An excellent accommodation choice, close to Universal Orlando, is the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel rosenshinglecreek.com. At 1500 rooms it is still very efficient.
- Winter Park, in suburban Orlando, has a restaurant worth finding. Chef John Tan at the Park Plaza Gardens serves outstanding cuisine.

Travel in brief

SAN FRAN The San Francisco Book and the San Francisco Visitors Planning Guide, published by the San Francisco Visitors Bureau, have been given a cover-to-cover makeover for the new year. The guides includes coverage on can't miss museum exhibits, tourist favorites paired with lesser-known local gems. (onlyin sanfrancisco.com)

POINTS If you've earned airline rewards from a number of different sources but haven't the slightest idea how to take advantage of them, one of the first Web sites to visit is Points.com, a site that helps you see all your account balances and redemption options in one place. It's free and will show you options to trade and combine rewards.

WORK AND TRAVEL Australia is offering a working holiday visa that provides young Canadian graduates with the opportunity to work, travel and explore Australia for up to one-year. Visit australia.com/workandholiday for more information, including deals, job prospects and assistance help to get travelers started.

OLYMPICS The Vancouver Art Gallery will play a central role in enlivening Vancouver's downtown streets during the 2010 Olympic Games with three major public art installations in the city's most prominent locations. Visit vanartgallery.bc.ca to get the details of who, when and where you can find the events.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Efron looking for a Hangover

Zac Efron wants to star in The Hangover sequel. He would love a role in the movie because he was such a fan of the first film, which was a worldwide box office smash. He said: "I haven't got that call yet to join them but that would be amazing." FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Ring hollow

Kim Kardashian says rumours of a supposed deal she made with boyfriend Reggie Bush to buy her an engagement ring if his New Orleans Saints win the Super Bowl are totally false. PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Rush is to join the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Songwriters' hall of fame to add Rush, Charlebois

MUSIC Legendary rock trio Rush, Quebec singer Robert Charlebois and Dolores Claman's iconic The Hockey Theme are among this year's inductees to the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame.

A gala next month will induct 11 composers and 16 songs into the institution, which officials say will get a permanent "bricks and mortar" home at the Toronto Centre for the Arts.

Hall of fame president Sylvia Tyson says each of the new inductees have helped define Canada's musical legacy.

Songs that will be honoured include Rush's Limelight, Closer to the Heart, The Spirit of Radio and Tom Sawyer, as well as the Charlebois tunes Fu man chu, Ordinaire, Les ailes d'un ange, and Demain l'hiver.

The inductees will be honoured at a gala on March 28 in Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ford made to Measure

Acting legend says story more important than high profile film roles

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Few actors have achieved the iconic status of Harrison Ford. The man who cracked Indiana Jones' whip and flew the Millenium Falcon is an idol for generations of movie lovers — and has made Hollywood lots of money.

When asked if he ever predicted his success, Ford humbly admits that it was hardly what he expected. "I thought if I was really lucky I'd get a regular part in a TV series. I had no ambition to be anything more than an employed actor," Ford says.

"I had no concept of the potential that I was lucky enough to achieve. I thought I was a character actor, not a leading man."

But despite all his success, the 67-year old Ford admits he is now less interested in finding high profile films to increase his star status than he is in finding roles that interest him as an actor.

"What I look for is something different from what I've done lately and a role that plays an important part in telling a story that I think would make a good movie," says Ford.

This search for material led Ford to produce Extraordinary Measures, the true story of John Crowley, a man who gave up a successful career to pursue a cure to the rare disease affecting his children.

Brendan Fraser and Harrison Ford star in the new film Extraordinary Measures.

It was Ford who brought the material to the studio to turn it into a film. "I thought Crowley's story was a fantastic example of what courage, conviction, and passion can do to change your life," says Ford.

"I was looking for material to develop in which I would have a role to play. It seemed to me that the best ally for a character was story. So I thought that if I had a strong story I could find a strong character."

The project allowed Ford to create the role of the surely Dr. Robert Stonehill, who helps Crowley achieve his goal. Stonehill is not based on a real person, instead Ford created his character based on the research that he and his filmmaking partners uncovered.

"We didn't find anyone as maladjusted and difficult as my character, but we found the circumstances that might lead a man to feel that way. Often a college's football coach will make more than the entire science budget of some institutions," says Ford. The character plays to the actor's strengths, but he is quick to admit that he has no intention of producing films regularly. "I wouldn't do it unless there's a good part for myself. It's too much like a real job otherwise."

Of course, no matter what the actor has done lately, fans still want to see him return to his most famous roles. Ford admits there's a chance he will be donning Indy's fedora again.

"George Lucas is working on a new idea. If it bears fruit and Steven Spielberg and I both respond to it, I'd be happy to do it," says Ford. But for now, the actor is primarily focused on finding new and interesting characters to share with his audience, much as he always has: "I didn't become an actor to be rich an famous. I did it to tell stories and have a job that I liked."

Movie **feature**

"What I look for is something different from what I've done lately and a role that plays an important part in telling a story that I think would make a good movie."
Harrison Ford

Extraordinary Measures opens in theatres on Friday

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Timberlake among tapped for SAG awards
As Hollywood award season rolls on, Justin Timberlake and Anna Kendrick are among the latest presenters to be announced for this Saturday's Screen Actors Guild Awards. PEOPLE.COM

Mix of Six

PERFORMANCE Nova Scotia-based songwriter Old Man Luedecke performs at Hugh's Room, 2261 Dundas St. W., at 8:30 p.m.

CONCERT Tegan And Sara perform an all ages show at Kool Haus, 132 Queens Quay. ticketmaster.ca

MUSIC The Toronto Symphony Orchestra presents Mozart's Women at Roy Thomson Hall, 60 Simcoe St. roythomson.com

THEATRE A stage version of High Fidelity is being performed at Hart House. harthousetheatre.ca.

OPERA Frankenstein, a contemporary opera based on the novel by Mary Shelley is being performed at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 2737 Bayview Ave. tryptych.org.

READING Roger Martin will be interviewed and sign copies of his books at 7 p.m. at Indigo, 55 Bloor St. W. chapters.indigo.ca.

McGarrigle sister dies at 63

MUSICIAN DEATH

Internationally acclaimed folk singer Kate McGarrigle, best known for performing with her sister Anna, has died of cancer. She was 63.

McGarrigle's brother-in-law, Dane Lanken, said the singer died at her Montreal home Monday night surrounded by her sisters, Jane and Anna, and her children, Rufus and Martha Wainwright.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

True North talent in Utah

Canadians figure prominently at this year's Sundace Film Festival

Canadian talent figures prominently at this year's Sundance festival, with Sarah Polley, Ryan Gosling and Ryan Reynolds among those starring in films set to unspool at Robert Redford's annual indie showcase.

The revered festival, which kicks off Thursday in scenic Park City, Utah, will also feature the latest from Hollywood heavyweights including Philip Seymour Hoffman and Ben Affleck, but Canadian films are generating some of the early chatter.

The Canada/France sci-fi horror flick Splice, executive-produced by Pan's Labyrinth director Guillermo del Toro, stars Polley and Adrien Brody as radical geneticists who create a terrifying new creature.

The project is a radical change in direction from the last film Polley brought to Sundance — the tender love story Away From Her, about an elderly couple dealing with Alzheimer's.

Back then, Polley arrived at the snowy fest as a first-time feature film director, and strong buzz from her debut paved the way for a year of accolades that culminated with an Oscar nomination for best adapted screenplay in 2008.

Novice talent this year includes first-time director Adriana Maggs, whose coming-of-age tale Grown-Up Movie Star is one of 14 films that will compete in the international feature section.

The native of Corner Brook, Nfld., says the fest is an influential platform for emerging filmmakers looking to make their mark, pointing to the meteoric success that Precious enjoyed since debuting at Sundance last year.

They're getting back to that kind of real indie film," Maggs says of Sundance's focus.

"The success of (Precious) showed them that they were doing the right thing to (focus on) those real, soul-wrenching human stories.

"Hopefully that's part of the reason why (my) film got in, because it's dealing with some of those honest, brutal truths that not everyone wants to talk about."

Set in small-town Newfoundland, Grown-Up Movie Star is about a teenage girl determined to grow up fast as her father struggles to come to terms with his homosexuality.

Many Canadians appear in the fest's Park City at Midnight section, a showcase of horror and wild comedies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Canadian-French production Splice stars Sarah Polley and Adrien Brody, and is generating Sundance Film Festival chatter.

Tatiana Maslany stars in Grown-Up Movie Star

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Garth leaves 90210

Jennie Garth is leaving hit U.S. show 90210 to spend more time with her three daughters, according to husband Peter Facinelli. The actress, who appeared in the original, only wanted to reprise her role of Kelly Taylor for a few episodes of the new show. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

The final days of Leo Tolstoy

Last Station brings story to the big screen

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Movie feature

Michael Hoffman is certainly not a director who could ever be accused of repeating himself. Over a 27-year career, Hoffman has created everything from the quirky low budget British comedy Restless Natives to an all-star adaptation of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

His latest project is The Last Station and true to form the story of the final days of author Leo Tolstoy (War And Peace) is unlike anything he's done before.

"My movies are very disparate in terms of genre and subject matter because I like to do what moves me," Hoffman told Metro. "I usually find subjects that relate to what's going on in my life. In this case, I didn't set out to make a Tolstoy biopic. I wanted to make a movie about the difficulty of living with love and the impossibility of living without it."

Last Station opens in theatres on Friday

The Last Station stars Christopher Plummer and Helen Mirren as Leo and Sophia Tolstoy during their turmultuous final days as Leo struggled to decide whether to leave the rights of his work to the public in keeping with his socialist politics or to leave it as an inheritance for his family. It's a complicated story about loyalty and love with amazing career-capping performances from the two leads. Quite apart from his interest in the themes of the piece, Hoffman was thrilled to work with such fine actors. "I've never questioned that we had the perfect cast," claimed Hoffman. "Helen and Christopher had extraordinary chemistry that would have been extremely hard to find with any other actors. One time Chris asked me, 'How do I play an icon?' And I remember just saying, 'Well Chris, you are an icon. If we can't do it with you I don't know who we're going to do it with.' Both actors brought that iconic presence to the film."

The Last Station stars Christopher Plummer and Helen Mirren as Leo and Sophia Tolstoy.

The big names in Michael Hoffman's cast aren't limited to Mirren and Plummer either. The screenplay also drew in actors like Paul Giamatti and James McAvoy before the director had even secured financing. "I think all of the cast felt that the script was great actor bait," said Hoffman. "It was material they knew other actors would respond to, so they all signed on knowing that they would be in a great cast." But despite all of the recognizable names, it took Hoffman years of struggle to bring The Last Station to the screen. "It was extremely tough to get off the ground," revealed Hoffman. "Even with movie stars attached, I couldn't just walk in the door at a Hollywood studio and make a Tolstoy movie. It took a German producer to basically turn an American film into a European film in order to get it made. So, I'm really grateful for the Germans because without them there would be no Last Station."

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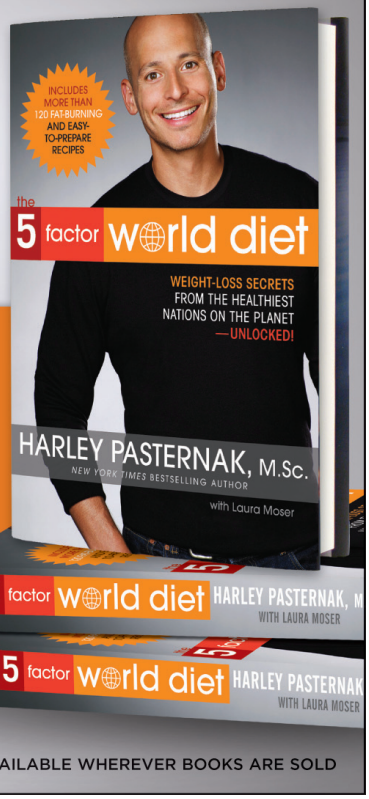

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Patrick Harris to appear Glee
Neil Patrick Harris is nearing a deal to appear in the May sweeps Glee episode that's being helmed by Joss Whedon. Glee creator Ryan Murphy. EW.COM

Coke doc irks company

Coca-Cola Case links soft-drink giant to human rights abuses

It seems that a documentary critical of soft-drink giant Coca-Cola has left a bitter taste with the company.

The multinational corporation has told a university film network planning to screen The Coca-Cola Case in several cities that the movie contains inaccuracies and violates a confidentiality agreement.

The Montreal-based group, called Cinema Politica, says Coke lawyers sent it a letter earlier this month issuing veiled legal threats if it proceeds with plans to host screenings in Canada, the United States and abroad.

The Coca-Cola Case screens in Toronto on Feb. 4

But the group's programmer, Ezra Winton, says they won't back down, noting their own legal counsel has said they are within their rights to show the film.

The Coca-Cola Case, co-produced by Argus Films of Montreal and the National Film Board of Canada, links Coca-Cola to human rights abuses and anti-union tactics in Colombia and Guatemala.

In the letter to Cinema Politica provided by the group, Faith Gay of New York law firm Quinn Emanuel says "the Coca-Cola Company reserves all of its rights and remedies with regard to any future showing of the film."

Winton said The Coca-Cola Case would begin its tour as planned Monday night at Montreal's Concordia University and continue through March. Other stops include Halifax, Fredericton, Toronto, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, Alta., Vancouver and Yellowknife.

"We talked to the NFB, the distributor and the filmmakers and everything seemed fine and we had some legal advice that we're in our rights to show the film, and so we're going ahead," Winton said from Montreal.

A spokeswoman for Coca-Cola said the company took issue with the film on several points.

"The unfounded allegations made in the documentary have been reviewed by multiple courts in Colombia and the United States, as well by the International Labor Organization, and outside law firms — all concluding that the Coca-Cola bottler employees in Colombia enjoy extensive, normal relations with multiple unions and are provided with safe working conditions there," Kerry Kerr said Monday in an email.

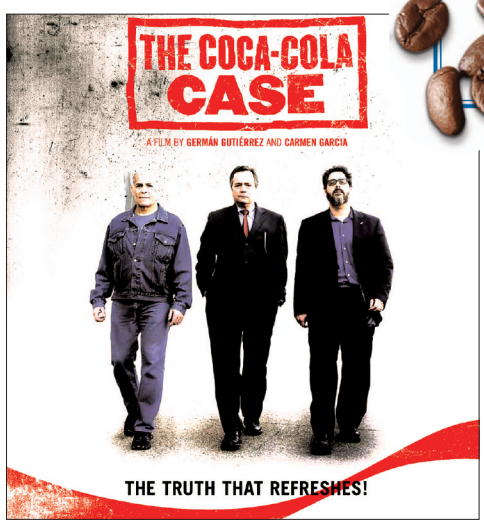
Winton said The Coca-Cola Case, directed by Carmen Garcia and German Gutierrez, screened without incident at the Montreal International Documentary Festival last November.

He added that Coca-Cola's legal objections are drawing more publicity to the group's planned screenings.

"The amount of traffic onto the Coca-Cola tour page on the Cinema Politica website is just massive . . . and the amount of activity on our Facebook group, the amount of emails, the amount of stuff online, blogs and elsewhere indicates to us that we're going to have a big turnout," Winton said.

"It's the most attention that we've ever got for any of the films that have screened throughout the network."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Montreal-based group Cinema Politica, which produced the documentary The Coca-Cola Case, have recieved veiled legal threats regarding the screening of the film.

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Jury to decide suspect's fate in Letterman case

COURT A jury should get to decide whether a TV producer's dealings with David Letterman were attempted blackmail or just hard-nosed business, a judge ruled yesterday.

Manhattan state Supreme Court Justice Charles Solomon refused to throw out an attempted grand larceny charge against the producer, Robert "Joe" Halderman. The ruling puts the case on a path toward trial, which could bring testimony from the Late Show host about events in his private life that have been pushed into public view.

The case spurred Letterman to tell viewers in October that he had slept with women on his staff.

Prosecutors say Halderman demanded $2 million to keep quiet about the talk-show host's affairs. Halderman says he was just offering Letterman a chance to buy — and keep private — a thinly veiled screenplay about Letterman's life.

Whether Halderman's conduct amounted to commerce or crime "is a classic example of an issue that is best left for a trial jury to decide," Solomon wrote.

The 52-year-old Halderman, a producer for CBS' 48 Hours Mystery, could face up to 15 years in prison if convicted. A trial date could be set at his next court appearance March 9.

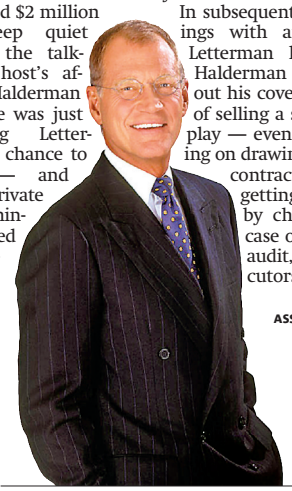
Defence lawyer Gerald Shargel said he was "perfectly willing to put it in front of a trial jury." A Letterman lawyer has said the comedian would willingly testify.

Prosecutors say the financially strapped Halderman threatened to ruin Letterman's reputation with information he had gleaned from his then-girlfriend's diary. It described her relationship with Letterman, her boss, authorities said.

Letterman married longtime girlfriend Regina Lasko last March. They began dating in 1986 and have a six-year-old son.

In subsequent meetings with another Letterman lawyer, Halderman laid out his cover story of selling a screenplay — even insisting on drawing up a contract and getting paid by check in case of a tax audit, prosecutors said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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SECOND CUP

China pulls Avatar 2-D version from theatres

FILM Chinese censors have ordered the 2-D version of Avatar pulled from screens across the country, apparently to reduce competition for the homegrown film industry.

The 3-D and IMAX versions of James Cameron's global hit will continue their run into February. But Saturday marks the end of the 2-D run of the science fiction epic, which also dramatizes the forced eviction of a people — a politically sensitive subject in China.

China Film Group, the state-run domestic distributor of the Hollywood blockbuster, has reportedly ordered the move after receiving instructions from China's censors. Repeated calls to the distributor's spokesman Tuesday went unanswered.

Reportedly, part of the reason is to reduce competition for China's homegrown films, like the state-backed biopic of Confucius, the ancient Chinese philosopher, which opens this Thursday.

There is also sensitivity to the movie's plot, which revolves around the forced evictions of the alien Na'vi race by humans — a story line that some have said draws unflattering comparisons to China's own, often brutal removal of millions of residents to make way for property developers.

Columnist Huang Hung penned a commentary in the official English-language China Daily, saying the film had struck a chord with Chinese viewers.

"All the forced removal of old neighbourhoods in China makes us the only earthlings today who can really feel the pain of the Na'vi," she wrote.

Avatar is already the biggest box-office success in China, pulling in more than $44 million US as of Jan 12. It quickly surpassed last year's 2012 and Transformers 3.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A tradition 'nevermore'?

A mysterious visitor who left roses and cognac at the grave of Edgar Allan Poe each year on the writer's birthday failed to show early Tuesday, breaking with a ritual that began more than 60 years ago.

AP PHOTO/GAIL BURTON

Leah Trindall, from Sydney, Australia, photographs a monument to Edgar Allen Poe Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010.

"I'm confused, befuddled," said Jeff Jerome, curator of the Poe House and Museum. "I don't know what's going on."

The tradition dates back to at least 1949, according to newspaper accounts from the era, Jerome said. Since then, an unidentified person has come every Jan. 19 to leave three roses and a half-bottle of cognac at Poe's grave in a church cemetery in Baltimore. The event has become a pilgrimage for die-hard Poe fans, some of whom travel hundreds of miles. About three dozen stood huddled in blankets during the overnight cold Tuesday, peering through the churchyard's iron gates hoping to catch a glimpse of the figure known only as the "Poe toaster."

At 5:30 a.m., Jerome emerged from inside the church, where he and a select group of Poe enthusiasts keep watch over the graveyard, and announced to the crowd that the visitor never arrived.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Musical women rule nominations

MUSIC AWARDS Women are dominating the nominations for Britain's leading music awards — the Brits. Quirky chanteuses Florence and the Machine, Pixie Lott, Lily Allen and Lady GaGa all have three nominations. Nominees in the international categories include Bruce Springsteen, Eminem, Jay-Z, Michael Buble and Shakira. Robbie Williams will receive an award for outstanding contribution to music at the Feb. 16 ceremony in London.

Leno late-night return is right move for network

TELEVISION NBC Universal chief executive Jeff Zucker says Jay Leno's return to late-night television is the right financial move.

NBC is ending its prime-time The Jay Leno Show because of low ratings and affiliate station complaints.

An exit deal with Conan O'Brien is expected this week.

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TO	Vu	SD	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 1/20/10	265	353	2	TVO	Saving Our Seabirds		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		New Tricks Riverboat disaster.		The View From Here "A Hard Name" (N)		
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	House		Kitchen Nightmares		The Deep End "Pilot" (N)		News Hour
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	Ugly Betty "Blackout!"		Look I Cook
	210	302	6	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (HDTV) (N)		Republic of Doyle (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: Special Victims		Mercy "Wake Up, Bill"		Modern Family	Cougar Town	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Access H.	American Idol (HDTV) (N)		Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		CTV News
	218	345	11	CHCH	*Richie Rich* ★★ (1994, Comedy) Macaulay Culkin.				*Beat Street* ★★ (1984, Musical) Rae Dawn Chong, Guy Davis.				News at 11 (N)
	-	-	14	-	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	The Insider (N)	George Lopez	*My Silent Partner* (2006, Suspense) Joanna Going.				The Insider	Hitchcock Pres	Becker
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Access H.	Old Christine	Unmarried	Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Mercy "Wake Up, Bill"		Law & Order: SVU		The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Modern Family	The Middle	Modern Family	Cougar Town	(10:01) Ugly Betty (N)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Old Christine	The Middle	*Along Came Polly* ★★ (2004, Romance-Comedy)				A News
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	American Idol (HDTV) (N)		Human Target "Rewind"		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	PBS NewsHour	Wait for God	The Human Spark (DVS)		Great Performances at the Met "The Audition" (N)				Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Life Unexpected "Pilot"		Gossip Girl (HDTV)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: Special Victims		WBZ News (N)	What's-Store	Frasier	Frasier	The Office
	298	653	332	TLA	The Tyra Show		According/Jim	Family Guy	KTLA News	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Life Unexp.
news	502	390	26	NW	Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		Can Obama Save the Planet?		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report (Live)		Biography on CNBC		The NEW Age of Wal-Mart		Biography on CNBC (N)		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	Hockey 2010 Home Hardware CHL/NHL Top Prospects Game. (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
	400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	NHL Hockey St. Louis Blues at Montreal Canadiens. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre		Tennis
	411	457	58	OLN	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destin. Truth
	417	406	81	SC	Barrett-Jackson Automobile Auction (HDTV) From Westworld Scottsdale, Ariz. (Live)								
family	551	542	25	YTV	iCarly	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol
	554	544	45	TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	556	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Supernanny		Dine With Me	Grocery Bag	The Restaurant	The Restaurant	Chef Worthy	Fearl-Kitchen	Grocery Bag
	570	580	29	MM	Make It or Break It		disBAND (N)	Video on Trial	50 Moments	50 Moments	50 Moments	50 Moments	50 Moments
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal	Steven Seagal
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Un Ciclone In Famiglia				George Lopez	George Lopez	Lopez Tonight
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Entourage	Wild 'n Out	mmtop10.ca
	575	583	38	CMT	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Due South
	616	521	39	SHO	Relic Hunter		*Abducted: Fugitive for Love* (2007, Drama) Sarah Wynter.				HawthoRNe (N)		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	Death at-Opera	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar "Free Fall"		Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	End of Leash	End of Leash	End/Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	Ice Pilots NWT (N)		Nostradamus Effect (N)		Ice Road Truckers		Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Re-Inventors
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Little Britain	Hot Box	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Agent-Agent	Intervention	Property Virgin	Unsellable	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	College Basketball Auburn at LSU. (Live)				Law & Order: Special Victims		The Office
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Sugar Hill* ★★ (1993, Drama) Wesley Snipes, Michael Wright.					Monica: Still	Mo'Nique
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Lost "He's Our You"		Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Chuck (HDTV) (N)		InnerSpace (N)
	581	566	52	MTV	Peak Season	After	Cribs	Cribs	The Real World		The Real World (N)		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Rescue Ink		Hoarders (N)		Hoarders (N)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Spoiled Rotten
	603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	Fresh-Anna	Challenge		Iron Chef America		Chopped		Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Keeping Up	Open All Hours	Doc Martin (N)		Unscripted (N)	God Bless	Poltergeist
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Babar	Big & Small	Max & Ruby
	526	507	249	VIVA	Cold Case "8 Years"		Missing A missing woman.		The Closer		Cold Case "8 Years"		Mediums
	300	601	301	M1	(7:10) *My Neighbor's Secret* (2009, Suspense)				*17 Again* ★★ (2009, Comedy) Zac Efron.			(10:45) *Atonement*	
	305	612	306	PIX	*The Client*	(7:20) *Stowaways* (1997, Drama)			*Anaconda* ★ (1997, Suspense), Ice Cube			*Double Vision* ★★ (1992)	
	520	146	-	DISC	Daily Planet (N)		The Colony "Power Struggle"		License to Drill		Mayday		Daily Planet
	637	-	-	TVLND	Red Green	Red Green	Fantasy Island		Hart to Hart		Andy Griffith	Phil Silvers	Bizarre
	605	-	-	FASH	Australia's Next Top Model		FashionTele	RAW	Canada's Next Top Model		LG Fashion Week		LG Fashion

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Greased lightning

Grease actor Jeff Conaway, who was last seen trying to get sober in Celebrity Rehab, was admitted to a Los Angeles hospital on Monday with serious injuries after falling down a staircase at his home, popeater.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Barbie looks — and brain?

IF NOT ADDICTED, WHAT DO YOU CALL IT? Under fire for the staggering number of cosmetic procedures she's recently undergone, Heidi Montag now says she isn't addicted to plastic surgery — she just wants to be as beautiful as she can be, inside and out, people.com reports.

Asked on Tuesday's Good Morning America for a response to those who say she is addicted, Montag, 23, replied, "I would say that none of those people know me at all, and that's just a judgment. I'm not addicted. If I were addicted, I would have had 10 plastic surgeries."

What she had, actually, was 10 procedures on the same day, back in November. This followed a previous surgery three years ago. In a recent interview with People, Montag admitted she was "beyond obsessed" with having work done.

Asked why she would want to look like a Barbie doll, Montag replied, "I think I look like myself. I think I just look like a different, improved version of myself."

Many observers are upset with the message that's sent to young girls when an already attractive 23-year-old chooses to undergo so many alterations. But Montag says it's her life — and in her line of work, alterations can be necessary.

"I'm in a different industry," she said, "and I have to do things that are going to make me happy at the end of the day." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Another shining star for Haiti

HOLLYWOOD'S CAUSE CELEB? Golden Globe winner Sandra Bullock has turned anything but a Blind Side to the situation in Haiti — and has donated $1 million US in relief aid to the victims of the Jan. 12 earthquake, people.com reports.

Bullock's contribution matches those by George Clooney and Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, reports Variety.

The trade paper also notes that Gisele Bündchen has pledged $1.5 million to Haiti, while Madonna says she has given $250,000

The gifts come as the star roster for Friday's multi-network Hope for Haiti telethon, organized and to be co-hosted by Clooney and Wyclef Jean, continues to expand.

Among those set to perform now include Christina Aguilera, Bono, Alicia Keys, Sting and Justin Timberlake. Tom Cruise and Julia Roberts have already been announced as answering the phones during the telethon.

The special will air live from Los Angeles and New York at 8 p.m. ET on MTV, ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, FOX, and BET among other networks. METRO NEWS SERVICES

For only $1,500 a week you could help support this girl

AND HER SHOE COLLECTION Britney Spears has reportedly found a way around the spending restrictions placed on her by her father, according to TMZ.

Sources say the singer bought a pair of boots at a Steve Madden store in L.A. using a bodyguard's credit card.

When the clerk gave her a hard time about the name on the card, Spears reportedly insisted it was a corporate card.

According to the Web site, Spears' dad caps her credit card spending at $1,500 US a week. METRO WORLD NEWS

Her rocker gives her a rock

A DIAMOND, PEOPLE! NOT THE OTHER KIND OF ROCK Kate Moss' boyfriend, Jamie Hince, surprised her with quite the birthday present by meeting up with her in the Caribbean and popping the question, according to Hollyscoop.

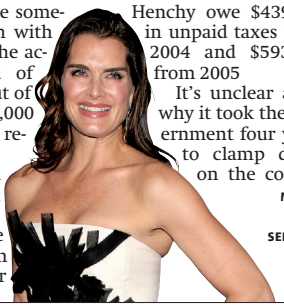
"Kate was stunned," a source says. "Jamie called her up and told her not to come home. He said he was flying out to Mustique. He had carefully picked a ring and chose her birthday to propose. It was the first time they had been alone together in quite a while and it was extremely emotional." METRO WORLD NEWS

Brooke is on the IRS hook

FOR THE PRICE OF A BIRKIN BAG It appears Brooke Shields has a little something in common with Nicolas Cage — the actress is accused of stiffing the IRS out of more than $10,000 US, TMZ.com reports..

According to a federal tax lien filed on Dec. 31, 2009 — the same day Uncle Sam smacked Cage for $6 million — Shields and her husband Christopher Henchy owe $4391.70 in unpaid taxes from 2004 and $5932.50 from 2005

It's unclear as to why it took the government four years to clamp down on the couple. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Babies love tour buses

AS WELL AS DIAMONDS, CASHMERE AND CRISTAL Beyonce Knowles admits she's looking forward to starting a family, but she and Jay-Z don't have any specific plans as of yet.

"I definitely want to have a child, but I know from my nephew it's a lot," she tells Allure magazine. "I hope that those things will just happen naturally. I still haven't had time to relax."

The singer also admits she's concerned for her curves. "I always say, 'I don't want to lose my curves.' I like firm curves," she says. "You can never do enough squats, you can never do enough sit-ups. I like for women to look feminine." METRO WORLD NEWS

CelebTweets

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

RICKY MARTIN is pitching in, **ELLEN DEGENERES** does in fact want to brag, **ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER** makes motivating sound threatening, and **KATY PERRY** is perplexed by rain in Los Angeles.

@ricky_martin on my way to #Haiti

@TheEllenShow I don't want to brag, but Keith Urban serenaded me today.

@schwarzenegger Maria and I are pumping up all the great kids volunteering at Van Nuys Middle School

@katyperry Do i shower or just stand out side for one minute?

METRO WORLD NEWS

Baby Daddy?

STARS DON'T GO THROUGH MENOPAUSE, RIGHT? Madonna is reportedly looking to expand her family by having a child with Jesus Luz, her Brazilian male model boyfriend, according to the Sun.

"She knows that, at 51, it's going to be harder to conceive naturally," a source says. "But she is Olympic-athlete fit and is ready for the challenge."

And Luz is reportedly on board with the idea, having told Madonna he thinks having a child would be "his greatest adventure." METRO WORLD NEWS

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Today Partly cloudy -3° / -9°

Thursday Variable 0° / -4°

Friday Variable 0° / -5°

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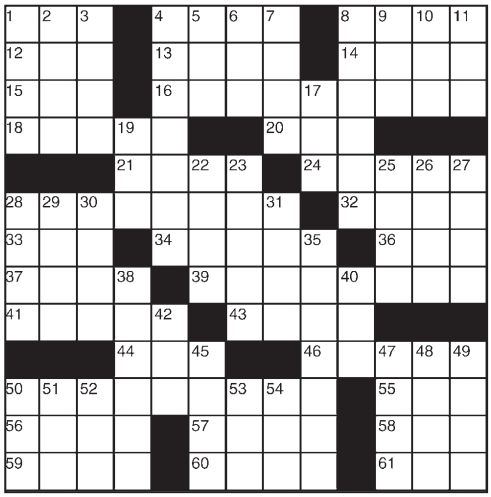

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

4		1		3	2			8
	7		6					4
	2		4				3	
2							4	
		5	1		3	9		
	3							6
	5				1		8	
8					4		2	
9			5	2		7		

ACROSS

1 Pretense
4 Sit for a snapshot
8 Sleeping
12 Also
13 Press
14 "Arrivederci"
15 Lummox
16 Triangular Halloween treat
18 Use tweezers
20 Witness
21 Brewery products
24 Despots
28 Measures of luminous intensity
32 Fat
33 Mimic
34 Novelist Ephron
36 Grazing area
37 Anthropologist Margaret
39 Openly
41 Added
43 Martial-arts school
44 Sprite
46 Expand a computer file
50 February 2nd
55 Before
56 Enthusiastic
57 Right on the map?
58 — Francisco
59 Took the bus
60 Fling
61 Potent stick

DOWN

1 Surmounting
2 Brat's stocking stuffer
3 Vegan's protein source
4 Intoxicated
5 "... man — mouse?"
6 Trinity member
7 Tackles' teammates
8 Way in
9 Resume, for short
10 Listener
11 Dress in
17 Nevertheless
19 Scoundrel
22 A util.
23 Dieter's entree
25 "— Lang Syne"
26 Fishing rod attachment
27 Remain
28 Arrived
29 Pinnacle
30 Spruced up
31 China (Pref.)
35 Tweaks
38 Coat with flour
40 Charged bit
42 Every last crumb
45 Poetic measures
47 Vivacity
48 Persia, now
49 Confined, with "up"
50 Gridlock component
51 Past
52 Affirmative action?
53 Long March leader
54 Foolish one

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

9	8	7	6	3	5	4	1	2
4	3	5	7	1	2	8	9	6
6	2	1	8	9	4	5	7	3
3	6	2	9	4	8	7	5	1
1	9	8	2	5	7	6	3	4
5	7	4	1	6	3	2	8	9
2	5	6	3	8	9	1	4	7
7	4	3	5	2	1	9	6	8
8	1	9	4	7	6	3	2	5

On the web

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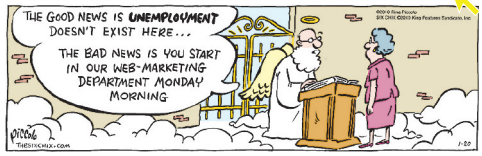

Metro Recipe of the Day

Golden Kebabs with Zesty Mayonnaise

INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
2 tsp (10 mL) turmeric
2 garlic cloves, crushed
4 skinless boneless chicken breasts
3 nectarines, halved and pitted
12 baby peppers, halved
2 scallions, chopped
Grated zest of 1/2 lemon
6 3/4 tbsp (100 mL) mayonnaise
1/3 cup (75 mL) plain low-fat yogurt
lemon juice, to taste

METHOD:

1. Put olive oil in bowl. Add turmeric, garlic and seasoning. Cut each chicken breast into six chunks, then add to mixture and toss to coat. Set aside.
2. Preheat broiler to high. Cut each nectarine half into four wedges, for 24 pieces in total. Thread chicken, nectarines and peppers onto eight metal skewers, nestling wedges of nectarine inside pepper halves and alternating with chicken chunks. Put kebabs into large, shallow, ovenproof dish.
3. Broil kebabs 5 minutes per side. Chicken should be cooked through and peppers and edges of nectarines should be well browned, with charring in places.
4. In small bowl, mix scallions and lemon zest with mayonnaise and yogurt, and add lemon juice to taste. Serve dollops of dressing beside kebabs.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
As from today you will find it easier to get along with other people, both in your work environment and in your private life.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You cannot afford to get upset about things that require a practical rather than an emotional response.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You may not have been looking or feeling your best of late but don't worry because within a matter of days you will be back on top of the world again.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
If you have been living beyond your means in recent weeks then you will have to tighten your belt considerably as from today.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You will make some interesting new friends over the next few weeks while the Sun is moving through your opposite sign of Aquarius.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Get a grip on your working routine. Draw up a schedule and stick to it. It may be the last thing you want to do but wanting does not come into it.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Be adventurous, be courageous, and above all believe that you have what it takes to be the best at what you do.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Make allowances for people who are more emotional than you. Not everyone possesses your self-control.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Try not to see every encounter as a battle that must be won. You can easily turn enemies into allies and foes into friends, simply by talking to them.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
The Sun leaves your birth sign today but you don't have to leave the good times behind. In many ways your luck will improve over the next few weeks.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Even if your actual birthday is not for some days or weeks yet it will feel like your birthday over the next 24 hours, so by all means celebrate.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
The most important thing now is that you make a mental effort to look on the bright side, even if what happens today is not entirely to your liking.

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HWY: 5.8 L/100KM 49 MPG CITY: 8.3 L/100KM 34 MPG*

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